

PER/BX/9401/C36

Canadian grain growers can't compete with international subsidies

Margaret Griffioen

EDMONTON, Alta. — The federal government's announcement of an additional \$64-million in freight subsidies for Western grain farmers will do little to help Canadian growers caught in the web of international subsidy wars.

Without government subsidies

Canadian growers cannot compete in international markets which currently see grain selling at far below the cost of production. Both the U.S. and the European Community subsidize their farmers, and more importantly, their export sales, said John Kolkman, of the Christian Farmers Federation, Alberta (CFFA).

"The Europeans have been subsidizing their farmers for years," said Kolkman, and the U.S., in order to unload its surplus of grain and to compete on international markets, had to do the same, often matching Europe "subsidy for subsidy."

This situation forces Canada to subsidize its farmers or "let tens of thousands of grain producers go out of business," said Kolkman.

Adding to this political battle, are the good harvests in the last few years in all grain-producing countries and the fact that Europe has become an exporter of grain instead of an importer.

Prices, not surplus, the problem

Kolkman said some people are asking if Canadian growers should cut back on production. However, though the U.S. has a surplus of grain, Canada has been able to export most of its crops and even increase its share of the world market (by 1.5 per cent to 19.8 per cent last year) because of the good relationship it has with its buyers and the high quality of its grain.

For Canadian farmers, the problem lies with low world prices. Kolkman estimates the break-even cost of growing barley is \$2 per bushel and of wheat is \$4.50 per bushel. This year prices are estimated to be \$1.30 per



Photo: C.C. files

Canadian grain farmers face increasing competition from U.S. and European subsidized growers.

bushel for barley and \$2.50 for wheat. In the late '70s farmers received about \$3 to \$4 per bushel for these crops.

Government must help

Grain farmers argue that they need more than last year's \$1-billion in funding from the federal government, and according to Kolkman, the freight subsidies will help, but are not enough.

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Calvinist Contact

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Ontario sponsors Family Violence Prevention Month

Marguerite Witvoet

TORONTO, Ont. — Is family violence still a problem in Ontario? The Ontario Women's Directorate thinks so. From Apr. 15 to May 15, OWD is sponsoring a Family Violence Prevention Month for the province of Ontario. Eighty-five projects in various communities across the province will focus on family violence and how to prevent it.

The Month is the second phase of an awareness campaign begun last September. The first phase focused on "breaking the silence" — encouraging battered women to come forward with the truth about their situation so they and their families can receive help.

This time the theme is criminalization. "The government

wants to spread the message that violence within the family is no less reprehensible, no less a crime than violence outside the family," says Vicki Trerise, provincial co-ordinator for OWD. "Because wife abuse is a criminal act, the community as a whole is responsible for stopping the situation, not just the woman herself."

OWD estimates that one in 10 women is beaten by her husband or male partner. "That means that more than 200,000 women in Ontario alone are being physically assaulted not by strangers in the street, but by their husbands. They are women of all ages, income levels and cultures. Pregnant women are particularly at risk," says a brochure which was made up by Hon. Ian Scott, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Women's Issues.

Trerise, who has been deeply involved in the issue of family violence for the past 12 years, says this project is the first of its kind in Canada. Public awareness projects have been undertaken before at a municipal level, but have never before involved an entire province.

Projects planned for the month include high school poster contests, shopping mall displays, public meetings, brochures in various languages, radio advertising, films and panel discussions with police officers, lawyers and counsellors. Most women's shelters in local communities are involved in these projects.

The Ontario government is not shirking its responsibility in the campaign, either. On Apr. 15 of this year, Scott announced that a previously allocated \$5.4-million has been increased to \$12.5-million, which represents a commitment of an additional \$7.1-million."



Photo: OWD

Vicki Trerise stands in front of Nellie's, the women's shelter which she was instrumental in starting.

Dr. Cornelius Van Til, 91 Noted Christian philosopher dies

Margaret Griffioen

PHILADELPHIA, Penn. — "When people mention Cornelius Van Til, they are thinking of the uncompromising theologian," said Marian Van Til of her great uncle Kees (C.C., May 10, 1985). "... but I think first of a soft-spoken, witty Uncle Kees who, at our huge family reunions, always had time for us kids."

The soft-spoken, well-respected theologian died Apr. 17 at his residence near the Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, where for 43 years he was professor of apologetics and emeritus professor since his retirement in 1972. A memorial service was held Apr. 29 at the Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church where Van Til worshipped for the last 40 years.

The theologian

Van Til is perhaps best known for the development of a fresh approach to the task of defending the Christian faith. Although trained in traditional methods, he drew on the insights of fellow Calvinistic philosophers Vollenhoven and Dooyeweerd to formulate a more consistently Christian methodology. His apologetic focused on the role of presuppositions, the point of contact between believers and unbelievers and the antithesis between Christian and non-Christian worldviews.

"... There are two ways of defending the faith," said Van Til in *Christianity Today*. "One of these begins from man as self-sufficient and works up to God, while the other begins from the triune God of the scriptures and relates all things to him

The traditional ideas of trying to find some neutral, common ground on which the believer and unbeliever can stand are based on the notion that man is autonomous ... [yet] Paul says, all men, knowing God, hold down this knowledge in unrighteousness ... [This knowledge] is the only basis man has on which he can stand, to know himself, to find the facts of his world and learn how to relate them to one another. Without the Creator-God-Redeemer of scripture the universe would resemble an infinite number of beads with no holes in any of them, yet which must all be strung by an infinitely long string."

The man

"My friends and professors [when I was younger] thought Van Til was too conservative, and so did I. No Christian Reformed person likes to admit to owning relatives who are either 'too liberal' or 'too conservative,'" said Marian in her 1985 profile of Van Til. Further in her article, Marian "admit[s] pride in having a relative like uncle Kees, and I think about the man, not the 'Reformed thinker.'"

Continued on page 4 ...

In this issue:

SPECIAL REPORT: Bert Witvoet, Wybe Bylsma and Gary Timmerman share their experiences and reflections on their recent trip to Libya.

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Editorial

No pleasure in religious scandals

Newspapers and other media have had a heyday ever since the news broke of a sex scandal surrounding the PTL ministry in the United States. So far, *Calvinist Contact* has been silent on the subject. And for good reasons.

Although we have been critical in the past of the fundraising methods of television ministries and of the glitzy styles employed by Hollywood-inspired directors of religious programs, we take no delight in the sorry details that are filtering out through the public media. Even boxers know that you don't hit a person who's down.

Besides, the name of our risen Lord gets tainted by these events to the point that even the most distantly related Christian organization will feel the impact. Certainly, all TV ministries are taking a beating at this time. David Mainse of Crossroads Christian Communications, Canada's largest religious broadcast organization, is reporting a 30 per cent drop in financial support. The organization has been forced to withdraw from the planned religious channel Vision TV.

Brian Stiller of *Faith Today* urged editors and journalists at a recent meeting to ask themselves the question why so many people are attracted to American ministries like Jim and Tammy Bakker's PTL program. Before you ridicule these ministries, focus on the deeper issue of people's needs today, he said.

That's one way of looking at the problem. One could also focus on what idolatries of this time produce such needs that phony religious programs seem to meet. Physical cravings become needs too, but they are usually created by wrong consumption habits.

We're not sure whether what's happening in the press is a good or bad thing. Perhaps the publicity serves to get rid of bushelfuls of pseudo-spiritual notions that pacify a materialistic society. But we do well not to laugh at this point. As the Book of Proverbs points out: "A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom."

BW

Canadian films subjected to legalistic ruling

Three Canadian documentaries — *If You Love This Planet*, *Acid From Heaven*, *Acid Rain: Requiem or Recovery* — must be labelled "political propaganda," according to a majority ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. The judgment upholds the Reagan Administration's decision to brand the three films on nuclear war and acid rain.

According to the judgment of the Court, saying that the films are political propaganda does not automatically mean that they are misleading material. The term covers "advocacy materials that are completely accurate and merit the closest attention and the highest respect."

Three judges dissented and said that the ruling does not take into account the way ordinary people will interpret the label. Political propaganda usually implies that the material cannot be trusted.

The judgment by the majority of judges is troublesome. Not having seen the films, we cannot vouch for their veracity. Perhaps they are political propaganda, in the most negative sense of the term. But that does not seem to be the issue here. The judges do not question the truthfulness of the films. They simply ruled on whether the label can include accurate and respectable material. They decided it could.

No doubt, technically they are right. But when justice is

reduced to technicalities, to the letter of the law, then our civilization is in trouble. The courts then become places where legalists and technocrats can triumph.

Obviously the reason the Reagan administration wants the label applied to the three films is not that it looks upon the films as being highly respectable and completely accurate. It wants them branded because it doesn't like the message, which no doubt brings pressure to bear on U.S. nuclear and industrial policies.

The three dissenting judges saw through the ploy, and argued for a decision that would recognize the spirit of the dispute. People interpret political propaganda in a negative light. Labelling three films as political propaganda, a term used in the past to designate Nazi movies, is stacking the deck against a film-maker's freedom of speech.

For Calvinists, who recognize that every expression of life is coloured by one's convictions, the ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court can only be seen as a decision that views some expressions as coloured and others as neutral. The ruling provides an opportunity for the U.S. government to manipulate the flow of information.

BW

Letters

The complete story

Two months ago we printed the story of a young man finding his birth mother. The story, which was entitled "This my son who was lost is found," was written by Nancy Moore.

We forgot to mention at that time that the article was only part of a story which has been written out more completely in the book *Secret Child* by the same author. The book can be obtained in Christian bookstores or from R.G. Mitchell Books in Toronto.

Editor

Capital punishment not biblical imperative

Regarding the article "Who decides the death sentence?" by Syrt Wolters (Apr. 17) let me respond, please!

God did not always decide the death sentence in the affirmative. The Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. In Exodus, we read that God helped Moses flee from Pharaoh the day after he had killed an Egyptian. The murder conspiracy of Uriah by King David also did not meet with capital punishment. Paul slaughtered Christians before his conversion.

What am I saying? The Bible does not make capital punishment an infallible "law of Medes and Persians" kind of thing. Murderers are redeemable, and murder is not the unpardonable sin.

Peter Tensen,
Brantford, Ontario

Calvinist Contact and Orville Stringer

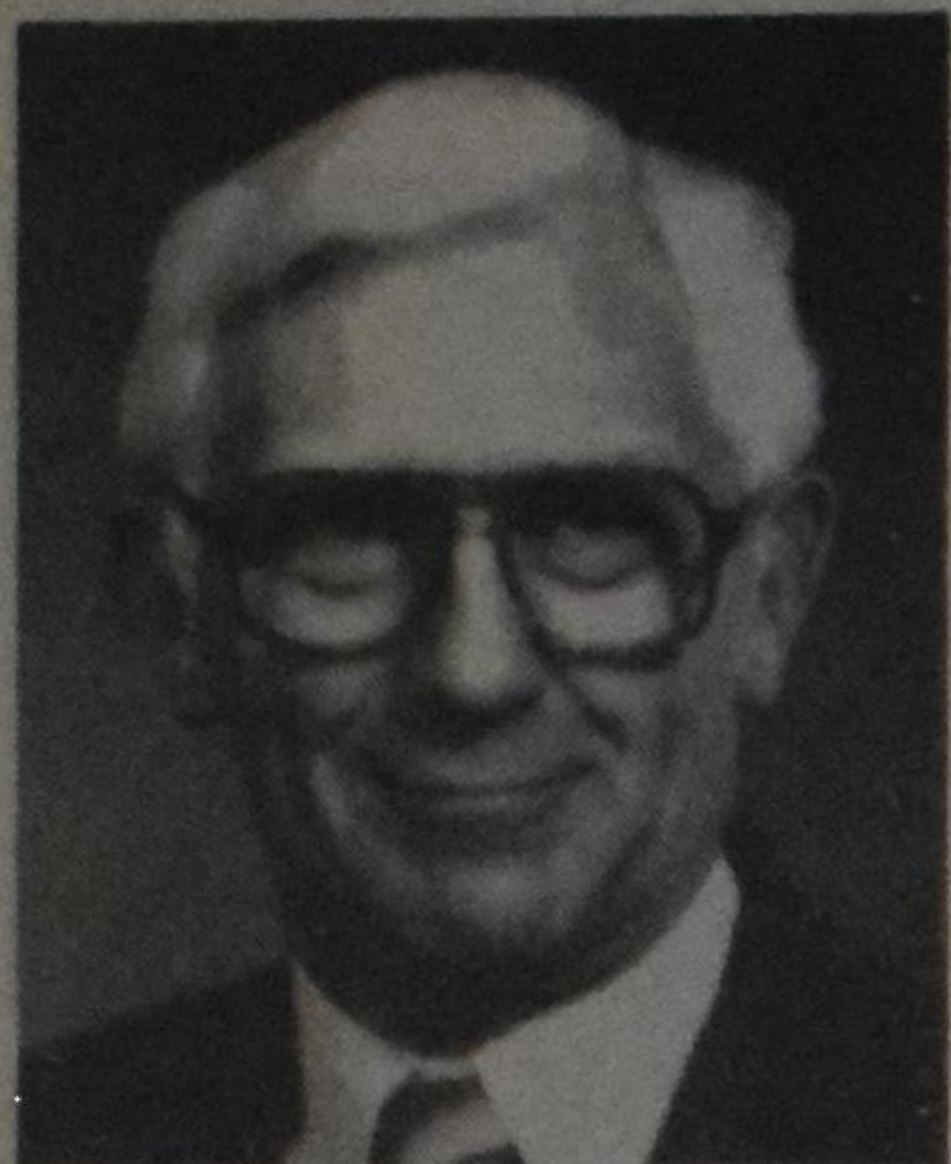
(In response to your editorial of Apr. 17, "Happy with your labels? Want a change?")

The name *Calvinist Contact* most likely means something to you. It means

a lot to you; so much that you want to change it. The name Orville Stringer does not mean anything to you. All you most likely will come up with is: a name of a male person.

To me the name Orville Stringer means a lot. Orville is a bricklayer, born in Northern Ontario, where he for some years worked in the mines. During the war years he worked in the munition factories in Ajax. After the war he took up his trade again and worked mostly in the area around Pickering where he used to live. It so happened that one day Orville and I met. I worked for this contractor, and one day Orville was hired on as a bricklayer.

SKYLIGHTS/WILLIAM RANG



"It is being said that the young people of our land are sexually active. It is also being said that also the young people of our churches are sexually active although I still refuse to believe it."

And what about sex?

In a sense, the devil is a poor teacher. Oh yes, he instructs his disciples according to his own insight and according to his own principles. He practices what he preaches, no question about it. And he does it well. Yet he is a poor teacher since his principles are all wrong. For instance, in the realm of sexuality he insists that the sexual act should be named "making love." You and I know that love is the prerequisite for sex. Without love, the sex-act is only the surrender to an instinct that has become corrupt because of sin. Love cannot be made.

It is being said that the young people of our land are sexually active. It is also being said that also the young people of our churches are sexually active although I still refuse to believe it. If it were true, it would mean that a very important aspect of the grace of God would no longer be working in the hearts and lives of our young. In fact, I continue to believe that the Lord knows the age in which we live and that precisely for that reason He gives extra doses of grace where it is needed.

Mind you, I am also sure that there are those who lock His grace out. Thus they may very well be the guys and gals who engage in the sexual act although they are not married. I wonder if they ever understood that the ceremony of marriage as we know it today is basically an administrative thing so that the government might know who are married and who are not. The scriptures make it clear that two people are married the moment they become one flesh. That's how the Lord looks upon it. In other words, in the eyes of the Lord two people could be married although the government does not agree with this.

Carry this a little further, if you please. When a young person engages in a sex-act with another and later with yet another, he or she is an adulterer. For such there is not room at the Lord's table and no mansion in the new Kingdom. Such a person must seek repentance and forgiveness. It's as simple as that.

There is only one form of marriage that the Christian accepts: marriage in the Lord. This means that we firmly believe that in a marriage there are three partners: the husband, the wife and Jesus. For that reason the sexual act must wait until the two have stood before Him and made their vows. After all, Christ is the Bridegroom and His church is the bride.

Don't lie to us, Satan!

William Rang is principal of the Christian high school in Dunnville, Ontario.

Longer Letter

Two articles judge and misjudge

Calvinist Contact, Apr. 17, 1987, contained at least two articles on which I wish to comment.

The first article, by Syrt Wolters, entitled, "Who decides the death sentence" ends with the sentence (in the grammatical as well as in a judgment sense):

"It seems that we have succumbed to secular, humanistic, thwarted thinking instead of yielding to the statutes of God, even when they are beyond our sinful comprehension."

The body of the article purports to be a biblically based imperative endorsement of capital punishment.

I take issue with both the judgment and the endorsement. The judgment is loaded with inflammatory language and labelling. In my opinion, both the writer and *Calvinist Contact* should avoid the use of such language where it is employed solely to bolster the argument. Either the argument presented stands on its own or it doesn't. If it does not then the "judgment" is a cheap device whose only effect will be to inflame the unreasoned position of the converted.

It is clear that among Christians the capital punishment debate goes on for the simple reason that the issue is debatable. The Christian Reformed Committee for Contact with the Government will, I believe, soon enlighten us about the biblical basis for doing away with capital punishment. Where I stand on the issue is not nearly as important as my refusal to be influenced by such articles as this one. It does absolutely nothing to further the debate.

I suppose we all have the right to our opinions and columnists have the privilege of airing theirs on a regular basis. I have, however, on occasion wished that the writer of this column would be more "pensive" and less "dutchie."

Misconstrued nature of hearing

The second article by Richard Vanderkloet is entitled "Baby M decision ambivalent" (Between the Lines). This article ends with the following paragraph:

"Judge Harvey Sorkow has not served society well with his ruling. He had an opportunity to state clearly that children cannot be produced under contract and that parenthood involved more than mere biological participation in the creation of a fertilized egg. In failing to do so, he has instead given legal approval to an abhorrent practice."

The body of this article deals with the custody battle between Baby M's biological surrogate mother and the biological father. The comment is with respect to the judge's ruling awarding custody to the father.

While the article undoubtedly raises issues that warrant discussion, I take much more issue with the writers judgment, set out above, than with the ruling of the court.

Suppose Judge Sorkow had, in fact, borrowed or applied the sentiment that "children cannot be produced under contract ..." then I suppose he could have ruled that the child be halved and given each parent his or her due. The implied suggestion that the judge was not aware of the fact that "parenthood involves more than mere biological participation in the creation of a fertilized egg" is not only an unwarranted insult of the judge but also entirely immaterial.

The statement provides no helpful insight that could assist the judge in reaching his decision. It is for others to preach and moralize; the much more practical problems are left to the courts. It was not the function of the judge to condemn the practice that brought forth this child, but to decide the complex issue of which parent should have custody now that the child is there.

To state "children cannot be produced under contract ..." is to miss the point. Baby M, in fact, is living proof that in today's society, children can be produced in this manner. The argument that children should not be produced under contract is an entirely different matter.

To state that the ruling "gives legal approval to an abhorrent practice" is to misconstrue the nature of the hearing and of the law. To condemn the court's ruling because it does not moralize or state the obvious is unjustified and no more acceptable than Dutchie's dubious denouncements.

Wietse G. Posthumus,
Toronto, Ontario

Some of the things I remember from my days working with Orville? One of them was that he had to smoke in order to do a day's work. One day Orville was building a corner (in those days you built the brick corners of the house first and then later on you would run the wall in between). Orville used to build a corner in about 20 minutes. This day he had been at the corner for about 45 minutes and the corner was only half built. The boss noticed it and sent me to get some cigarettes for Orville.

Orville also taught me the trade; here was this young man with a college education learning the art of bricklaying from a man who had finished Grade four in school. I like to think that I

learned more than a trade from this skinny, greying man.

One other thing about Orville I do remember: an expression. Orville and some of the other men had known each other for a long time. They quite often referred to him by his nickname: it was not a very flattering one. To me it seemed to hurt him, when they used it. But Orville would say: I do not care what they call me, as long as they do not call me late for supper.

Orville moved away quite a number of years ago. I had pretty well forgotten about him. Why did your editorial bring his memory back? Was it Orville's simple way of life and his simple solutions to (what seemed to others as)

large problems?

Was it the words in your article: "in these times of waste and excess"? You, Mr. Editor, seem to have an excess of time and know perfectly well how to waste it.

Was it his expression, that it did not matter what someone else called him, as long as he was called in time for supper?

Come to think of it: what a wisdom in this simple expression. Would, Mr. Editor, that you had met Orville.

Gerald Schroor,
Oshawa, Ontario

Do you admire a man who doesn't care what his mother calls him?

Editor



News

BETWEEN THE LINES

Socio-political comment by Gus Polman, Richard Vanderkloet, William van Geest

Out of the Dome drums

Gus Polman

The Easter weekend sale of Dome at a bargain basement price didn't exactly resurrect the debt-ridden Calgary petroleum giant but gave rise to debate mainly over nationalization and privatization. Federal Energy Minister Marcel Masse indicated the Mulroney government's preference for a "private-sector solution" to Dome's debt crisis. However, the impending sale of Dome to a U.S. multinational corporation is the bitter fruit of public policy which lacks long-term vision for the viability of Canadian industry.

Chicago-based Amco Corp. offered \$5.1-billion for the corporation, which has become a running drain on Canadian taxpayers. Amoco is the potential recipient of more than \$2-billion in Canadian tax credits, which would go a long way to ease the \$6.3-billion Dome debt it's buying. Dome spurned a \$4.3-billion offer by Trans Canada Pipelines, in which secured creditors would get up to another \$1-billion from future net profits. New Democrat and Liberal critics decried increased foreign control of Canadian petroleum reserves. They stressed that purchase by a Canadian company might have helped ensure security of Canada's energy supply and allowed revenue from non-renewable sources to remain in Canada. This may be, but we lack a long-range energy policy to help answer the question of what it would cost to put Dome in Canadian hands and whether this is a price Canadians are willing to pay.

Canadian governments, beginning with the Liberals, have subsidized Dome with tax concessions and incentives worth billions of dollars. Dome still has a staggering debt far beyond its \$4.9-billion assets.

Banks which were carefree in the heady 1970s and early 80s were part of the problem. When interest rates rose and oil prices tumbled later, Dome had a huge debt, of which almost \$3-billion was supplied by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the Bank of Montreal, the Toronto Dominion Bank and the Royal Bank. Dome's debts are so large, bankers were afraid to put the company under for fear of going with it.

No one has long-range vision

When public policy with short-term vision encourages the development of economies that depend on the sale of raw materials subject to

international market price fluctuations, we need not be surprised at death throes in the oilpatch — or on the farm. Critics can take aim at Dome deal details, but not one of the established political parties facing elections every few years in this country has the long-term vision or political will to forward economic strategies which provide for economic diversification in a self-reliant fashion and which respond to community needs in Canada rather than the vagaries of international market forces.

Dome doldrums reflect maldevelopment of our economy. Canadians are tasting the fruits of public policy that creates conditions for unhealthy economic development and irresponsibility. Foreign interests take control of our vital non-renewable resources to a degree that a Two-Thirds World country such as Mexico has not allowed. American Amoco has the resources to exploit the vast, rich oil properties in Western and Northern Canada that Dome can't now afford to tap. Dome became a leader in developing technology for harsh-climate oil drilling. Now an American company is headed to own the technology and will likely sell it back to us.

The scenario may seem familiar, in Two-Thirds World countries. Well, it could also be Canada's future drumbeat. Short-term political will readily leads to developing policies for bankruptcy rather than for stewardship of natural resources in Canada. The sale of the oilpatch to foreign companies has been accelerating for some time. Husky Oil went to offshore interests last year. Many smaller companies have sold more quietly. Now it's Dome's turn.

Opposition parties are talking up a better price tag for the Dome sale. Investment Canada (the Foreign Investment Review Agency before the last federal election) will decide whether the purchase is of "net benefit to Canada." The more important question is whether Canadians will make strategies for the long-term and urge avoidance of further maldevelopment with economic costs that bring pain beyond the sale of individual oil companies and barrels.

Gus Polman is Development Education Co-ordinator for the Christian Farmers Federation of Alberta.

Dr. Cornelius Van Til dies

... continued from page 1.

Van Til was born on May 3, 1895 in Grootegast, The Netherlands. He immigrated to the United States with his family at age 10. He grew up helping on the family farm in Highland, Indiana.

He went on to receive an advanced education when he saw the need to meet unbelief on its own ground and in the most thorough terms. Years later he said, "Study was not easy for me. Having grown up on the farm I was used to weeding onions and carrots and cabbages. It was hard to adjust to classroom work; I had laboured physically and my body was aching for that."

Van Til was married to Rena Klooster in 1925 and they had one son, Earl, who died in 1983. Van Til is survived by a granddaughter, Sharon Reed.

He graduated from Calvin College (A.B., 1922), Princeton Theological Seminary (Th.B., 1924; Th.M., 1925) and Princeton University (Ph.D., 1927). He served as the pastor of the Christian Reformed Church in Spring Lake, MI, 1927-28 and was instructor of apologetics at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1928-29. He was professor of apologetics at Westminster, 1929-72. He held an honorary professorship at the University of Debrecen, Hungary, in 1938; the Th.D. (honoris causa) from the University of Potchefstroom, South Africa; and the D.D. from Reformed Episcopal Seminary, Philadelphia.

Van Til was a minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church from 1936 until his death. Van Til was also instrumental in the founding of Philadelphia-Montgomery Christian

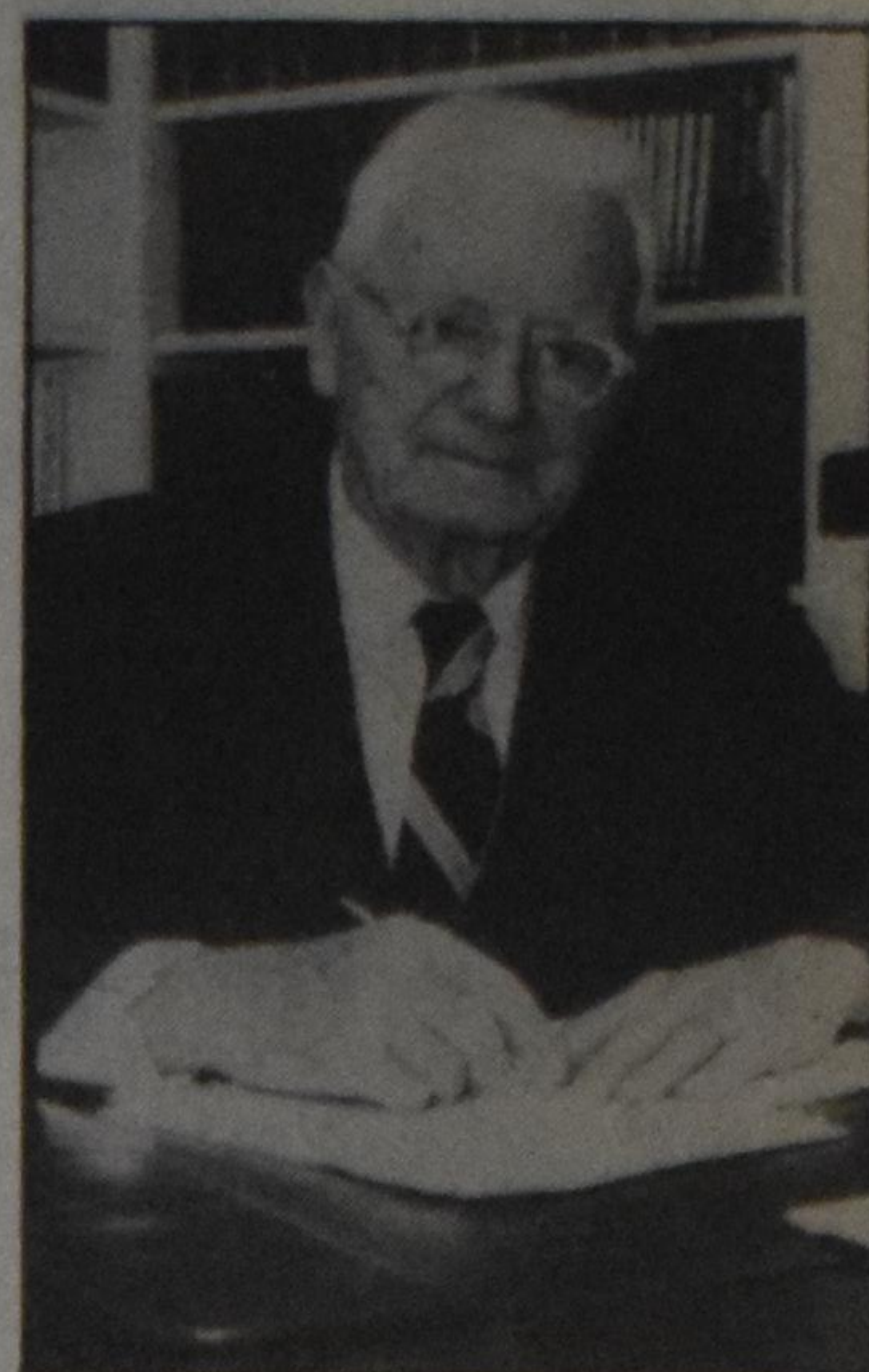


Photo: W.T.S.

Dr. Cornelius Van Til

Academy, serving as the president of the board. Begun in September 1942, the school now has over 700 students, K-12, on campuses in three Philadelphia communities: Roxborough, Dresher and Erdenheim.

Van Til published more than 25 volumes, including, *The New Modernism* (Presbyterian & Reformed, 1946), *The Defense of the Faith* (P & R, 1955) and *Christianity and Barthianism* (P & R, 1962), plus several syllabi and numerous reviews and articles. He was joint editor of *Philosophia Reformata*, a quarterly devoted to Calvinistic philosophy. A festschrift, *Jerusalem and Athens*, edited by E.R. Geehan with contributions by Hendrik G. Stoker, Herman Dooyeweerd, J.I. Packer, Paul K. Jewett, Arthur Holmes and others, was published on his 75th birthday (P & R, 1971).

Special thanks to Westminster Theological Seminary for their news release.

Time to free Rudolf Hess?

(The Canadian Churchman)
— Rudolf Hess has written to the leaders of the four Second World War allies — Britain, France, the United States and the USSR — asking to be freed from Spandau prison where he has served more than 40 years of a life sentence for Nazi war

crimes.

Now 92 years of age and in frail health, he is seeking release from the Berlin prison on humanitarian grounds.

More than two years ago, church leaders in Britain, France and the United States began working to try to secure the release of Hess.

Heads of Roman Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, Anglican, and Free churches said that Hess's continued imprisonment is degrading to all involved and no longer bears any relation to atonement for war crimes.

While Britain, France and the U.S. have tried to secure his release in the past, the Soviet Union has resisted such attempts.

Now, following a change in Soviet attitude which has allowed some dissident Jews and human rights activists to emigrate, it has been suggested that Mikhail Gorbachev is considering Hess's case.

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Turning a dream home into a real church

Marguerite Witvoet

It takes a lot of hard work to make a dream come true. Members of Fellowship Christian Reformed Church in St. Thomas, Ont., should know. They got together on Apr. 13 and worked for 25 hours straight taking down the dream home from Canada's National Home Show in Toronto. From it, they hope to build a new church for their congregation, which has been meeting in a nearby Christian school since being established in 1985.

A team of about 50 church members participated in the marathon dismantling project. Among them were Dick Greenway, who constructed the show's dream home for the fourth time in the last five years, and Albert Vanderploeg, a local farmer who co-ordinated the event.

Because the project lasted from 12 a.m. Monday morning and wasn't completed till 1 a.m. the following morning, said Greenway, "a few people had to leave at certain times and others came later, but basically, the main team was there the entire time."

All sorts of people got involved. Accountants, dairy farmers, teenagers, college students and more did everything from knocking down walls to taking nails out of beams. One group of women was kept busy looking after meals and coffee breaks. "We organized the breaks by shifts," Greenham said. "First group one would eat, then group two. By the time group three had finished, the first group was about ready for a break again!"

Not that they spent the whole time taking breaks. Greenway



Photo: Courtesy Nandy Overduin
Workers spent 25 hours tearing down the dream home at the National Home Show in Toronto.

was clearly pleased with the effort put forth by the team. "Morale was high, it was good to see so many people show up, and everybody pitched in," he said. Some people took two days off work to assist in dismantling the home, which is

now in storage; "one to work, and one to sleep!" Nandy Overduin, one of the workers who remained for the entire 25 hours, admits that by Tuesday morning, "I was pretty tired."

Materials from the dream home, which featured a new type of wood product called parallel strand lumber, may be sold, and the proceeds used for the new church. Overduin estimates that there is about \$100,000 worth of materials. It is more likely, however, that the salvaged lumber will be

used for the church itself, says Greenway. The congregation has yet to decide which approach they will take.

Regardless of what they decide, Dick Greenham is "trying not to be in charge" of building the church. "We specialize in houses and commercial buildings — building churches is not really my area of expertise."

Dream house building materials have been donated to recognized charities on an annual basis. The last three times Greenway built the home, materials went to the New Tribes Missionary Training Centre for construction of a training camp in Durham. "Finally, the decision of who gets the materials rests with me," Greenway says. "We were going to save as much as we could for re-use by our business this year when I heard that the congregation was interested. So, we gave it to them."

Given the enthusiasm of the congregation and the willingness to help, Greenway concludes he made a good decision.

Grain growers can't compete

... continued from page 1.

The subsidies will offset a rise in freight rates ordered by the Canadian Transport Commission. The commission said the rate for the coming crop year should be \$8.32 per tonne, but the subsidies mean rates will actually be \$6.32 (compared with the present average of \$5.97 per tonne).

"Ottawa will probably be obliged to spend more than \$3-billion this year on the prairie grain farmers," said a recent *Globe and Mail* report. "That includes \$700-million for transportation subsidies, about \$150-million for crop insurance, perhaps \$100-million for the wheat board's deficit and probably about \$750-million for federal payments to the Western grain stabilization fund."

"Farmers say they cannot seed their crops if there is uncertainty over the level of federal support. But the Finance Department fears that Ottawa might be locking itself into an annual \$3-billion expenditure for a single industry." Even if Ottawa comes through with \$3-billion, Kolkman says that Canadian grain producers will still be receiving less subsidy than their American and European counterparts.

There are 150,000 grain growers in Canada, according to Kolkman, and \$3-billion in government aid equals about \$20,000 per farmer. Although this sounds like a lot of money, Kolkman said it would not be enough, especially for young farmers who carry the heaviest debt loads.

What all this means for the Canadian consumer is that they pay about 2½ times the world price for their own wheat and for the manufacturing of such items as bread. Canadian taxes

also finance government assistance to grain growers — assistance estimated to equal grain export revenue this year.

No clear-cut solutions

Kolkman said various people, including CFFA are considering an alternative to straight subsidization of growers. In the U.S., farmers receive full subsidies, but to help alleviate the world supply and demand situation, cut back approximately 25 to 30 per cent of their production. The rest of their land is seeded in perennial crops (so the land does not lie fallow) and restrictions are applied to the amount of additional income they are allowed to make from that land.

Kolkman said CFFA would also like to see governments and lending institutions consider debt-aside programs established for young farmers. In such a program, up to 40 per cent of a qualifying farmer's debt could be set aside for several years, giving the farmer a chance to get firmly established.

A debt-aside alternative might be a solution for many

grain growers affected by the recent lifting of the 19-month moratorium on Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) foreclosures.

FCC estimates that 52,000 Canadian farmers (in all areas of farming) are in serious financial difficulty and 13,000 of those are insolvent. The lending institution has approximately 75,000 loans outstanding to farmers of which 16,000 are in arrears. Kolkman says a large percentage of these are grain growers and the recent announcement of freight subsidies, will only aid them somewhat.

"Many farmers may not be able to seed crops this year," said Jack Penner, president of the Manitoba-based Keystone Agricultural Producers in a recent *Globe and Mail* report. "The termination of the FCC moratorium will make it more difficult for farmers to get loans from banks and other lenders. Farmers need to borrow extra cash in the spring in order to purchase fuel, seed, fertilizer and chemicals."

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Marguerite Witvoet, page editor

Pianist shares music with Haitian children

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (EP) — Flamboyant pianist Dino Kartsonakis is usually seen wearing a tuxedo and playing the grand piano under a glittering chandelier in concert halls around the U.S. But recently Dino gave an unusual concert: a duet with Dr. Lonnie Rex, President of the David Livingstone Missionary Foundation, for 700 Haitian

school children in a slum in the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

Dino had travelled to Haiti to see the work of the David Livingstone Missionary Foundation and to take part in a series of "International Children's House" television programs to be aired on the Christian Broadcasting Network and independent stations. But when Rex, an accomplished pianist, suggested a special concert for the children, Dino readily agreed.

"I had no idea I'd be playing the piano. I just went to Haiti to help in the feeding program," explained Dino. "But Dr. Rex said, 'It would be great if we could get a piano. These kids have probably never heard of a piano or seen one.' The only one the pastors could locate

was in a casino — it was an upright in really bad shape — and they brought it over and we placed it right in the centre of the school. The Haitian kids gathered around with their eyes wide open as if they had never heard a sound like this before."

Dino, who has recorded some 30 albums and won six Dove Awards, says he hopes his example will inspire other artists to get involved in helping poverty-stricken Haiti. "It was absolutely shocking," he said of conditions in Haiti. "I couldn't believe the poverty I saw. But on the other side, I also felt the love of the people; they were very loving and open. That's why it is our responsibility as Christians to go down there and feed them the Word as well as their bodies."

During a Toronto Lenten service, a minister put on a paper crown and said to the Sunday school class, "Do I look like a king?" "No," said a little person, "you look like a queen." "Have you ever seen a real queen?" asked the minister. "Yes," she said, "at the dairy."

Attention consistories

Due to a limited number of qualified students, consistories needing summer pulpit supply are urged to apply for their services as soon as possible to the Director of the Ministerial Apprenticeship Program, Mid-America Reformed Seminary at (712) 737-3446.

Church News

Christian Reformed Church

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— to Collingwood, Ont., Rev. Roger Gelwicks of Blyth, Ont.

Need pulpit supply

The newly-organized Jubilee Christian Reformed Church in St. Catharines, Ont., is in need of preachers during the months of July and August. Pastors visiting the Niagara region who are willing to preach are urged to contact the clerk: Stan de Jong, P.O. Box 2463, Station B, St. Catharines, ON L2M 7M8. Phone: (416) 934-5358 or 682-8311.

Pastoral Pondering

Samaritan literature occasions new ideas about Bible

Herman Van Niejenhuis

The rediscovery of the Samaritans and especially their literature has opened up a whole new field of investigation for biblical scholars. Some of them consider the Samaritan materials to be more important in illuminating (the times of) the Bible than the Dead Sea Scrolls were. Any well-stocked seminary library would confirm that. There are books on the history of the Samaritans, on their liturgies, their methods of interpreting Torah, their "sects," their theology ... to name just a few. From out of this body of literature a number of interesting connections have been made between the New Testament documents and the Samaritans. For example:

1) *The Gospel of John is considered to have been originally written for a Samaritan audience.*

This idea stems from a verse like John 8:48, where the Jews accuse Jesus of being a Samaritan:

"... aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

To which Jesus replies that he is certainly not demon-possessed, while he is silent on the "Samaritan charge." Scholars would not identify Jesus as being a Samaritan on the basis of these words, but the silence is "attractive" to the Samaritans.

Add to this the story of the woman at Jacob's well. (John 4) Jesus points out that although "salvation comes from the Jews," he is also the one who brings fulfilment to Samaritan messianic hopes. With this kind of information, the "Samaritan thesis" is well on its way.

The "other sheep who are not of this fold," (John 10:16) become Samaritans! This is then substantiated by the fact that John has Ezekiel 34 on his mind: where Ephraim equals Northern Kingdom equals a large Samaritan population.

2) *Stephen is said to have been a Samaritan Christian.* In one of the Samaritan histories it is stated that Simon (the "sorcerer" in Acts 8), who practised his tricks in Samaria, was buried (after he died!) opposite the home-place of Stephen. From this hint, much re-examination of Stephen's speech in Acts 7 has been done in order to find evidence of Stephen's Samaritan background. Some scholars have come to the conclusion that he was a Samaritan by birth.

They point to the abrupt way Stephen ends his accounting of the history of salvation at the temple, underlined by his view of that (Jerusalem) temple:

"... the Most High does not live in houses made by men ..." — especially not when they are located somewhere other than Mount Gerizim!

They also point to various places in the speech where Stephen gives information that seems to be based more on the Samaritan Pentateuch than on the "regular" one. For example, Acts 7:4 says that Abraham left for Haran after the death of his father, Terah ... thereby making Terah 145 years old at his death. Genesis 11:32, on the other hand, has Terah living another 60 years after Abram leaves, making him 205 years old at his end. Meanwhile the Samaritan Pentateuch has Terah's total years as 145!

Most importantly, however, scholars point to Acts 7:15, 16 where *Shechem* is mentioned as the burial site for Jacob. For the Samaritans, of course, Shechem and vicinity was holy ground, as was everything that could possibly be connected with that vicinity. Meanwhile Genesis 49:29-32 testifies that Jacob was buried in Hebron. (Joseph was buried in Shechem; see Joshua 24:32!)

The trouble with this scenario is that not even the Samaritan traditions speak of Jacob as having been buried in Shechem!

(next week: some finishing touches)

Herman Van Niejenhuis is pastor at Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



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Pastoral Letter

Leonard Schalkwyk

The other day, the Agenda for the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church, 1987 edition, arrived at my home.

As usual, the section of overtures is very interesting. No less than 14 classes have overtures about Vision 21.

What is Vision 21? It is a report about a proposed restructuring of the Christian Reformed Church for the 21st century.

In 1983, Classis Hudson asked Synod to name a committee that would "study the organizational structure of the Christian Reformed Church, including all denominational boards and

agencies." Synod agreed and directed the matter to the Synodical Interim Committee. The S.I.C. created the existing Structure Study Committee. It proposes an Executive Board of Synod with a General Secretary. This board will have far-reaching powers as explained in pages 272-320 of the Agenda.

Reservations

In an interesting letter, dated Feb. 20, 1987, the Synodical Interim Committee, which appointed this Study Committee, informed all consistories and agencies that even though it gives general

Have you got 21 vision?

endorsement to the report, the S.I.C. has "reservations about some responsibilities requested by Vision 21, for what it calls the Executive Board of Synod, e.g., appointment of college and seminary professors and *The Banner* editor, the mandate to provide Synod with recommendations on general issues affecting the life of the church, the inclusion of three past presidents of Synod and the change of name from Synodical Interim Committee to Executive Board of Synod."

Seven classes request Synod not to adopt the Vision 21 report. Classis Alberta South overtures Synod to reject it

because "this report, while paying lip service to the principles of our Reformed/Presbyterian system of church government, tends to go far more in the direction of a hierarchical church structure."

Classis Florida overtures Synod to reject it because, "too much power and authority is invested in the Executive Board of Synod."

Classis Grandville opposes it because "the power and authority is in the control of too few people. The direction of the church will be set by 17 persons."

Classis Hamilton objects to it because "the committee's recommendation violates our understanding of the Reformed decision — making structures as spelled out in the Church Order of the CRC."

Classis Niagara overtures Synod not to adopt Vision 21, because, "though the intention is not to give such an Executive Board of Synod much controlling power over denominational life and ministries, the final result may well be that type of corporate boardroom control. The corporate model appears to outweigh the ecclesiastical model."

Postpone

Seven classes request Synod to postpone a decision on Vision 21.

Classis Orange City wants a new committee, because "the hard-nosed business-like analysis of organizational structure is the weakness of the present Committee. "This classis states: "Vision 21 reveals overreliance on an increasingly

discredited management theory when it proposes more centralized decision-making."

Classis Alberta North suggests that the report be referred to the churches for at least one year of study. Classis Eastern Canada takes a similar position, because of "the far-reaching implications of this report."

Classis Hamilton requests Synod to appoint a committee that will propose a structure for the four operating boards; every classis should be represented on each board.

Classis Hudson wants postponement because a significant number of the member churches had not received the report in time to respond to the Jan. 15, 1987, deadline.

Classis Wisconsin wants it postponed indefinitely, because "there is no biblical/theological justification for such a fundamental change in church policy."

Conclusion

To me it seems evident that business-like sentiment has had precedence over Reformed principle.

Down through the ages, Reformed thinkers have known that a more effective system could be devised. But their search for biblical thinking took precedence over economics and efficiency.

While reading Vision 21, Reformed thinking became more and more blurred to me. I prefer 20-20 vision.

Leonard Schalkwyk is pastor of the Christian Reformed Church in Springdale, Ontario.

Islam called "greatest threat"

BLACKPOOL, England (EP) — Islam, with its one-billion adherents worldwide, is the "greatest threat to Western civilization that exists today," says Floyd McClung, leader of Youth With A Mission (YWAM), in an interview with Dan Wooding, Chief Correspondent of the Open Doors News Service. American-born McClung, 41, said people in the West are so obsessed with the threat of communism that they fail to see the greater threat of militant Islam.

"Communism is meek and mild compared with Islam," said McClung, who was once a missionary to Afghanistan and is now Executive Director of International Operations for YWAM based in Amsterdam. "Just try and think of what it's like to be a Christian in Russia compared with Libya. It's certainly much easier to be a Christian in Eastern Europe than in Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan or Saudi Arabia.

"We are talking about Islamic countries with only a few hundred Christians, while in Eastern Europe we know there are millions of Christians."

McClung says that Muslims have redefined Jihad, the Holy

War. "Jihad," he stated, "was defined as a 'Holy War' against one's enemies. It involved physical violence; now they are redefining it for a spiritual war with the stepping up of the commitment in both Cairo and

A day in the life of Spain and USSR

(The Globe and Mail) — Platoons of photographers will click their way from Moscow to Siberia and from Madrid to Malaga this month for two new books. Cameramen from about 20 countries, including Canada, will focus on *A Day In the Life of Spain*. Another team of 50 Western photojournalists and 50 Soviets will shoot *A Day In the Life of The Soviet Union*, covering the country in 24 hours.

The projects will be added to Collins' *Day In The Life* photo series.

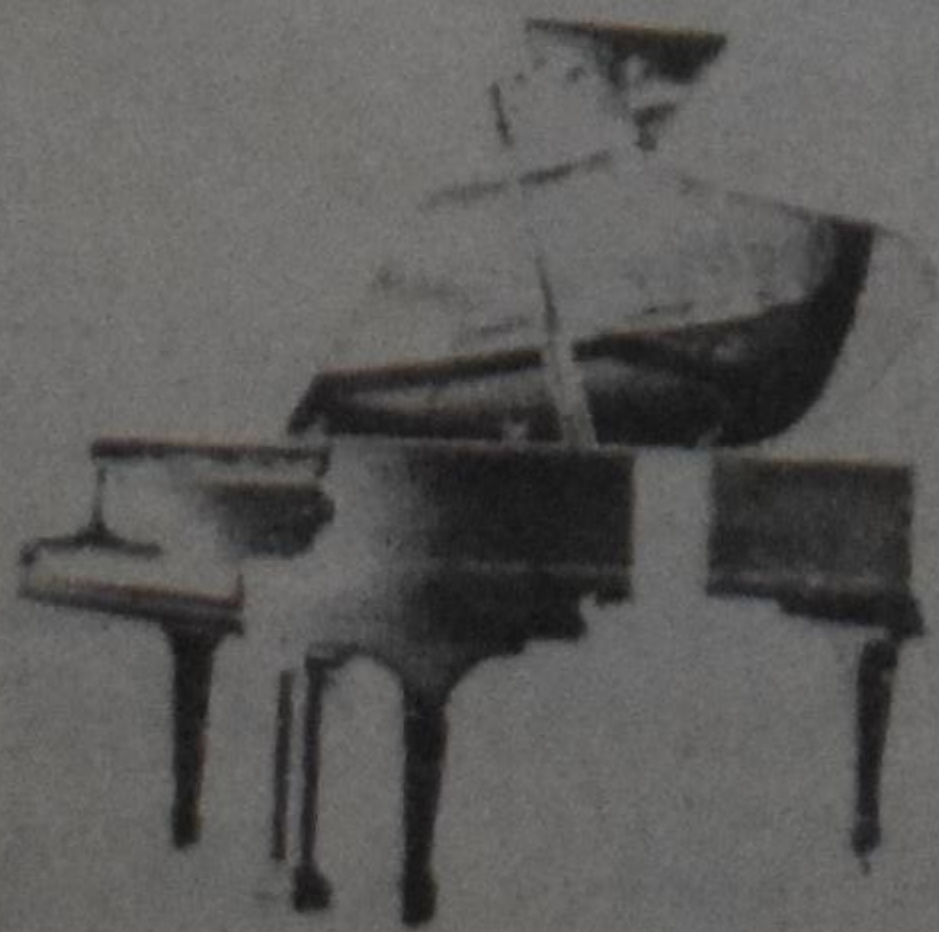
The cameramen will be given "unprecedented access" to photograph Soviet citizens and all regions of the country, a Collins spokesman said, but some restrictions may remain. "We don't know the rules and regulations yet, there are sure to be some," she said.

Mecca to train missionaries to make Islam the dominant force in the world. I believe Islam is the greatest threat to Western Civilization that exists today. Islam is an outlook, evangelistic, aggressive, militant philosophy and religion."

McClung describes the current situation in Lebanon as an "insight into hell." He explains, "The powers of darkness don't work through unity, they work through aggression and when unleashed turn against each other. What we see in the Middle East is the powers of darkness without restraint. There's fear, mistrust, envy, greed, jealousy. There's a desire to dominate and control. That's what hell is like and what I think Islam is like. At least under communism, there's some order."

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Family

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Doro Bakker

The message is clear, read to your child and begin early on in his life! Even when he can read independently, keep it up. Reading is a treasured rite of childhood! Following are some practical suggestions for helping to make books important in your child's life.

Make your child feel like a member of the reading world. One way to do this is to build his own library. Owning his own books is important, it's a source of pride and helps him treasure some favourite stories. Books become like friends — you laugh with them, you cry with them, but seldom do you feel like giving them away.

Take him to meet an author if you can. Children's bookstores often have an author come in to autograph or promote a new book. We in Canada are fortunate. At present there is a wealth of topnotch authors that write exclusively for children. Many of them travel the country trying to promote reading.

The library is a valuable resource. Most public libraries schedule story hour programs for their young patrons. These events provide occasions to enjoy good storytellers or readers while at the same time exposing the participants to a wide variety of literature. Take advantage of letting your child own a library card; it will give him access to an unlimited number of books and other resources.

Treat your child to a magazine subscription of his own, or loan them regularly from the library. Quality children's magazines contain stories, puzzles, comics, poetry and information. Even if he is too young to read himself, go through the magazine with him bit by bit. *National Geographic World*, *Owl* and *Chickadee* are three excellent choices.



Julian reads to a captive audience.

At the library

Julian Bakker

Age 7

The library is a place to take and look at books. On library day I take out my bike and ride it to the library. I like to take out the same two books. They are about airplanes and have good pictures.

You can also take out records and tapes. There are games to play there too. Sometimes I would choose a filmstrip and put it into the machine. There were filmstrips about all sorts of things. There are also librarians to help you. They help me find a picture of a white Twin Otter in a book.

It is fun at the library.

The end.

Just as most adults vary their reading materials, it's equally important for children to be provided with a variety of reading experiences. Poetry, classics, fun stories, folktales, recipe cards and information books all add new dimensions to a child's life. If you aren't familiar with children's books, schools and libraries have lists of recommended readings in every area for all age groups. If you have a children's bookstore nearby, it can also recommend quality reading material. The Children's Book Centre in Toronto, Ont., promotes Canadian children's books exclusively. They can provide a catalogue of all that is Canadian and in print.

Although books are expensive, there are ways to

obtain them at lower prices. Secondhand shops are good places to look, as are the garage sales that crop up at the first sign of spring. I once found three Caldecott winners in one stop — books well worth snapping up! (A Caldecott Medal book has been chosen as the top picture book in the U.S. in any given year.) Keep your eye open for book sales at the public library. Books sold here are usually making way for new titles or because they are duplicates.

Opportunities for enjoying books abound. Give your child the chance to be involved in the world of reading!

Doro Bakker is a former teacher living in Orangeville, Ontario.

Cinema summaries

Marian Van Til

Radio Days

Rated Family

Stars Mia Farrow, Dianne Wiest

Written and directed by Woody Allen

Radio Days is Woody Allen's tribute to a bygone era he obviously loved. It is a carefully detailed evocation of the radio-saturated (pre-television) 1940s; but it's more. Just as Allen's *Purple Rose of Cairo* demonstrated how thin the line between fantasy and reality can be (by examining the power of film in people's lives), so *Radio Days* displays the religion-like pervasiveness of the world of radio in the lives of the listeners in that early era.

Allen himself narrates the comings and goings of an extended Jewish family in a New York suburb. As narrator, he takes on the role of an adult reminiscing about those "radio days." That strand of the film is undoubtedly at least partly autobiographical. A second strand features anecdotes from the lives of the radio personalities. There is no tense drama, no fast-paced action, nor the prolonged humorous tomfoolery one expects in a comedy. The film feels like a documentary, with large doses of music, circa 1940; the star's lives and the family's intimate association with radio's mostly fictional world are set against the much more sober reality of American men going off to war against Hitler's Holocaust.

With that premise and plot (if it can be called that), *Radio Days* may at first seem like an imitation of Neil Simon's play *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, which recently was adapted to film. But Woody Allen is after more than a good-natured story. Allen, the searching "philosopher" always does more than tell a story. Here he seems to make a case for radio being the secular religion of the era: it binds people together, physically (as they gather in front of their sets) and spiritually (as they share a common body of knowledge and experience). It's a necessary communal diversion that both answers important questions and provides escape. Allen is astute enough to realize that we are spiritual beings and that whatever or whomever we allow to govern our lives and direct our thoughts and actions, will become our god. Since Allen has doubts about many of the forms of expression of Christianity (and Judaism — he's Jewish himself), those doubts extend to the way God operates. So for him or at least his characters it's safer and easier to construct a "religion" around something that is finite and comprehensible.

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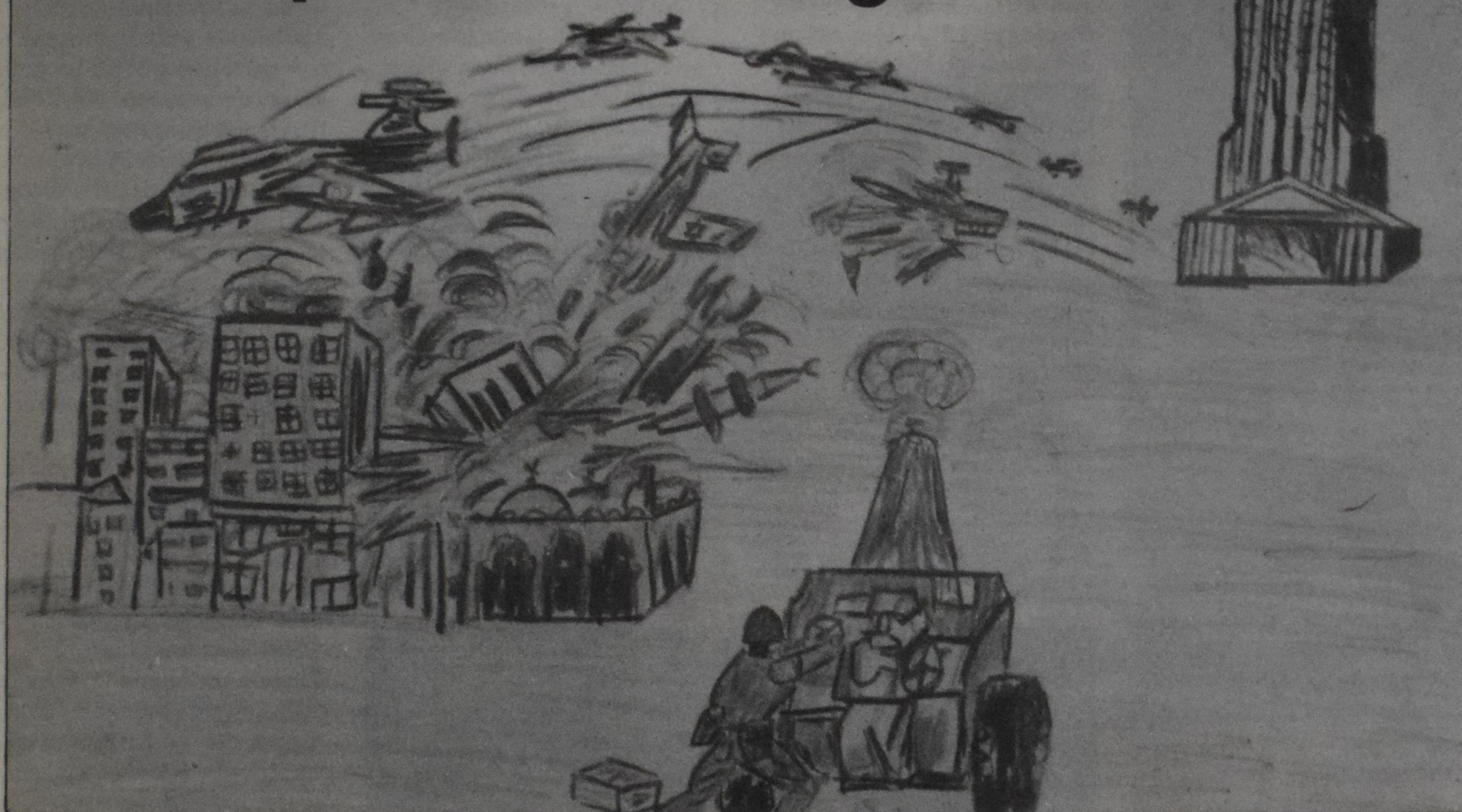
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Feature

The peace of Gadhafi or the peace of Reagan?



An illustration of the bombing of Tripoli by a Libyan child.

Bert Witvoet

It was not without feelings of apprehension that the three of us, Wybe Bylsma from Cobourg, Gary Timmerman from Bowmanville and I, accepted the invitation to join the Libyans in a commemoration of the first anniversary of the bombing of Libya by American warplanes.

We were not afraid for our lives. We thought the Libyans would not want to harm us, and it proved that we were justified thinking that way. Our apprehension lay more in the nature of the event. We knew that the Libyan government was going to use our presence for propaganda purposes. We expected that we might be exposed to a fair amount of revolutionary rhetoric. Were we going to compromise ourselves by going?

What helped me decide to go was that we were going as observers mostly, I myself as a journalist. There were no conditions attached to our acceptance of the all-expenses-paid trip to Libya. And finally, I did think that the bombing of Gadhafi's house, especially, was an unjustifiable act of terrorism on the part of the United States. The Libyans deserve a hearing on what it is that bothers them about Western aggression and interference.

The first contingent

We were part of the second contingent of Canadians flying to Tripoli. The first group had arrived two days earlier. For us that was unfortunate as we missed a very colourful, moving pageant performed by thousands of Libyan school children in a large stadium.

What we also missed was the somewhat disturbing incident created by the presence of nine alleged neo-fascists in the first delegation of Canadians. At a stop-over lunch in Rome, the nine had expressed racist

attitudes, much to the consternation of those Canadians who were sympathetic to the Libyan cause. Some of these were afraid that having fascists attend the Libyan Peace Conference would tarnish the image of this event. Libya may be anti-zionist in its political policies; it does not consider itself to be anti-Jewish.

A dispute arose among the Canadian delegates about what to do with these unwanted participants. A meeting was called in Tripoli and Libyan organizers were invited to attend. The majority of Canadians wanted the nine returned to Canada. The Libyans explained that this was not characteristic of Libyan hospitality. "If the murderer of

our father is in our house, we will treat him as an honoured guest," the Canadians were told. "Once he's out of the house we may wring his neck, but inside the house he's safe." The Libyans finally agreed to isolate the nine from the conference by putting them up in a hotel in Tripoli and providing them with their own program of entertainment.

The afternoon rally and march

All of this had transpired by the time our group arrived Monday evening, Apr. 13. The conferees, that is some 500 men and women from the United States, The United Kingdom and Canada, were staying at a tourist village, 15 kilometres west of Tripoli. The spacious campus with white stuccoed buildings is located right on the Mediterranean beach. Later that night, a young Canadian journalist who had come with the first group was to lose his

life in a fall from the roof of the administration building. We would not be told about this until some 36 hours later, a decision made by leaders in the Canadian delegation, who did not want the main event interfered with.

The first full day in Libya was to be the most important day from the point of view of the organizers. That afternoon

we met in a hotel, where Libyan leaders and representatives from the countries of our delegation spoke. The thrust of the speeches was that America had unjustly dealt with Libya and with other Arab nations, especially the Palestinians.

An American Indian representative recited the injustices perpetrated against his people by the white man. "Even the white man's god, who walked among them, was not safe," he remarked. Good Friday being only three days away, his comment struck home with this delegate.

At the same time, Wybe, Gary and I did not join the audience in shouting anti-American slogans and cheering revolutionary statements made by the speakers. We felt that no solution was being offered to the problems of the Middle East and that the Peace Conference had been improperly named.

After the meeting, an hour-long demonstration of solidarity with Libya in the form of a parade through down-town Tripoli followed.

At the head of the parade was a 52-year-old woman in a wheelchair from Oakland, California. Her name was Jane Jackson, I found out later through an interview with her. She told me why she had come. "I know exactly why I am here," she said. "I am here to protest the bombing of Libya by my government. I came as an American citizen to offer my



Photos: Bert Witvoet

Above: Jane Jackson holds a Libyan flag while leading the parade. Left: On the way to down-town Tripoli. Banners and posters were supplied in great number by the Libyan host.



apologies to the people of Libya."

After being pushed to the head of the parade by a Libyan organizer, she was given a green Libyan flag. She felt somewhat uncomfortable, she later remarked. "As an American I do not like to hold another country's flag." But

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Feature

The peace of Gadhafi or the peace of Reagan?



Photo: Bert Witvoet

From l. to r.: Bert Witvoet, Gary Timmerman and Wybe Bylsma wait at Tripoli airport for their host to take them to the Tourist Village.

...continued from page 9.

Jane Jackson, not wanting to insult the Libyans by putting it away, found a solution to her problem when she spotted a small Libyan child also clutching a green flag. She asked the child if it wanted a ride. Taking the child in her lap, she placed her own flag in the child's free hand and clasped the child. "This way," she said, "if anyone asks me about the flag, I can say that I was not holding a flag but a child."

At the Gadhafi compound

The parade behind us, we were bused back to the tourist village for supper. At 10 p.m. we boarded the buses again, this time to be brought to the Bab al Aziziya barracks, where Gadhafi's house had been bombed a year ago. We were to stay there until after two o'clock, the exact time that bombs had fallen on the compound. This was going to be the central event of our stay in Libya.

For this the Libyans had spent more than \$3,000 per delegate. The bombing of Moammar Gadhafi's house is treated as a national crisis by the Libyans, the way the Jews treat the Holocaust. They don't want the world to forget about it; they don't want to forget about it themselves. Everything in the house had been left the way it was immediately after the bombing. We freely roamed through the house, observing the ravaged bedrooms and living quarters of the Gadhafis. Outside the house, drawings by Libyan school children depicting what they think happened the night of Apr. 15, 1986, were posted on bulletin boards. Fragments of bombs and airplane were displayed as well.

Speaker after speaker denounced the United States, Reagan and Thatcher (who had given permission for American F111s to take off from England) for the killing of innocent children and other civilians. Moammar Gadhafi was called a hero. A black song writer from Britain stomped his bell-rigged feet and sang,

"Africa will be free; Jamahiriya."

At one point Mrs. Gadhafi and her children entered the compound to listen to some of the speeches. Her teenage son eloquently denounced America and praised Libya. Moammar himself appeared for only 90 seconds at about 2 o'clock in the morning.

After that, Libyan runners lit a torch, Indians sang to the rhythm of their ceremonial drum and a band of young Libyan musicians struck up a march. The air almost seemed festive rather than mournful. One table held baskets of sweet fresh dates to which the delegates freely helped themselves.

Behind the scenes

It was a strange feeling to be walking around in the compound of what the West calls the madman Gadhafi. Is he really as crazy as the press makes him out to be? From what I had read before I came and from what I saw in Libya, I deduced that positive things



Above: Moammar Gadhafi with infant daughter Hana, a year before she was killed in the raid. Left: Mrs. Gadhafi and son Saif El-Eslam listen to speakers.

need to be said about Gadhafi to make the picture more complete. Compare the man to someone like Idi Amin and the thought quickly emerges that Moammar Gadhafi has never used his position of power to indiscriminately kill Libyans nor does he hoard the considerable wealth that Libyan oil has brought to his country. Gadhafi lives an austere life and has dedicated himself to improving the lot of his countrymen.

He has written a book called the *Green Book* which spells

out the socio-economic system that has been introduced in Libya. The system is called the Jamahiriya. Under it, nobody owns any land. As long as you work the land, it is yours. Where this differs from a communist system is that the produce you grow is yours to eat and sell. Nobody pays rent in Libya. Houses are built with oil money and local committees regulate housing. Other local committees run schools, factories and other infra-structures.

Nobody is supposed to have servants either. Libyan society is fairly egalitarian, although university professors, for example, drive better cars than factory workers. Nobody is extremely rich and nobody is

people that if they wanted their garbage picked up, they had better do it themselves.

So far the Libyans have shown no inclination to pick up after themselves. Everywhere, even on beaches, one can find red and yellow plastic bags, pieces of wood, cement blocks, tires. Old cars and trucks are abandoned wherever they puffed out their last gasp of carbon monoxide.

The Jamahiriya is a strange mixture of socialism, muslim morality (no alcohol, no prostitution, no pornography — at least in public), Western ideas and Arabic mentality. Muslim societies will never be communist. They hate the atheism of communist countries and its state-

Some of the Canadians who had travelled with Chris had noticed that on the flight to Rome and to Tripoli Chris had been very tense and non-communicative. He did express a lack of confidence about his first major assignment as a journalist. When the news broke about his death, and the story was pieced together, the facts pointed to a suicidal act by a depressed young man.

How the Libyan news service twisted this story to suit Libyan aims became evident when some of the Canadians picked up a news bulletin in the corridor of the Grand Hotel in Tripoli, where we had a luncheon with the mayor of Tripoli. Janna news service reported on the death in the following news release:

"A Canadian youth, Christopher Lahmann Halns [sic], yesterday committed suicide under the effects of what he saw of the damage caused by the American aggression when he visited the house of the leader of the revolution where he saw the pictures of innocent victims including children, women and elderly people as well as the houses which collapsed on their innocent victims. The Canadian youth ... was unable to control himself when he saw those ugly scenes of gross crimes against humanity and peace. He sacrificed his life for peace and against terrorism."

This was a blatant lie. Chris had never been at the site of the damage. He committed suicide a day before we went there. One American delegate with strong Marxist leanings tried to justify this kind of reporting. "There's nothing wrong with making use of an otherwise meaningless death," he said. "I will lie or twist any story to suit my purposes."

So much for an alternative to "Western imperialism."

The real story

Upon our return to Canada, we found out, however, that Canadian papers had put their own slant on the story. The facts they reported were not so much in dispute. Western journalists do not deliberately misrepresent. But what bothered me was that they ignored the real story of the event in Tripoli and went instead for the sensational, violent death. Suicides, unfortunately, happen every day in all countries of the world. They need not be reported in great detail. But what was important about the commemoration of more than 30 deaths in Libya was the struggle going on between democratic countries and countries run by fundamentalistic Muslims.

What are the Libyan
Continued on page 12 ...

controlled societies.

The Libyan state asserts itself in foreign policies, in the nationalization of foreign industry, in the distribution of oil money, in economic policies. But the social outworkings of the Islamic revolution is mostly left up to the people through their local committees.

Slanted press

The Libyan press is slanted, as is the Western press, but in a different way. This became obvious to me through the incident involving Christoph Lehman-Halens, the young Canadian journalist who lost his life in a fall. When the Canadian delegation was told about this tragic death, a day and a half later, the conclusion that the death was an apparent suicide was accepted by most.

Gary Timmerman

The walls lining the alleys where we entered the Gadhafi compound were decorated with children's coloured drawings. Their impressions of their nation's enemy — the United States — showed anger and revenge.

It was late evening, and I was among some 100 Canadians to witness the first anniversary activities of the bombing of Tripoli, at the former Gadhafi home. The damage had been preserved for world attention. I toured the house, walking through the collapsed plaster ceilings, scattered glass and mirror, bared wiring and fixtures, upset furniture and cracked walls. It seemed obvious that the structure had not suffered a direct hit, but the damage was thorough.

The courtyard was lined with more children's paintings and a display of American instruments used in the raid. Bomb casings, navigation equipment, pilot helmets and gear, a jet's landing wheel, fuselage scrap and engine parts were all arranged carefully to demonstrate to whom they belonged. Centred in the courtyard was a symbol of remembrance — a 15-foot, steel forearm and fist clinching in its grip a black U.S. aircraft, grabbed from the midnight sky.

At the rally, speeches were delivered to suit the purpose of the night vigil. I heard of America as being the barbaric imperialists and leaders in world terrorism, and President Reagan as the killer of the children; a reference to the 30 Libyan lives lost including the Colonel's adopted daughter. It sounded so one-sided to me. Such simple and naive judgments they were! No one spoke of peace or rebuilding trust. From our Canadian delegates, two moderate spokesmen, an 83-year-old Palestinian Christian and a prominent Native Canadian from Ottawa had speeches prepared but were never given the podium.

As 2:00 a.m. neared, the hour last year that the American jets hit targets in Tripoli and Benghazi, Gadhafi's 16-year-old son, Saif el-Eslam, stirred many in the crowd as he spoke in support of his father. Then, with a band of Native Indians from the U.S. dancing to the beat of their ceremonial drum, an Indian youth clad in traditional war-time garment, climbed the steel monument in the courtyard centre, and lit a fiery torch at its peak, which set off the chanting Libyan crowd. They were people caught up in a spirit of hate and revenge.

Measuring the hope of peace

This event capped a day of anti-American propaganda demonstrations that had little to do with peace-making. I was not surprised, but still disappointed that there was not an openness to discuss the



Photos: Bert Witvoet

Above: Delegates view the damage inside the house. Right: They gathered outside the house to listen to speeches.

many issues and perspectives that were represented by the people who were there. What hope for peace was there really?

The way for me to learn a little bit about the real issues involved was to talk to the people, foreign guests and the local Libyans. There seemed to be two dominant viewpoints expressed.

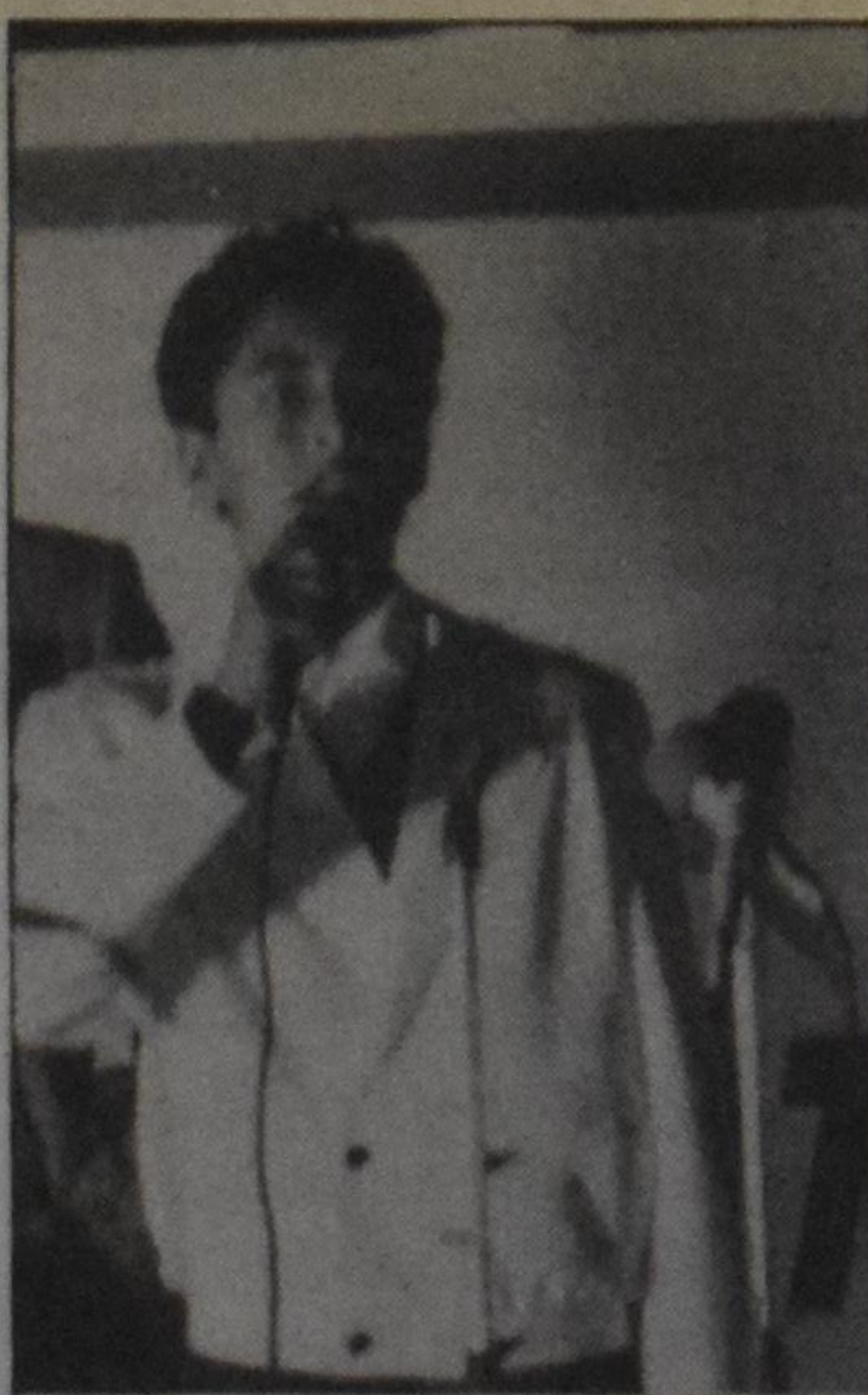


Photo: Bert Witvoet

Gadhafi's son, Saif el-Eslam addressing the crowd.

The "freedom fighters" of all stripes and causes make up the first group. Many of these delegates brought leaflets and communiques of the battles they were fighting back home (U.S. interference in South Africa or Nicaragua, black racism, handicapped rights, political prisoners, etc.) to find support from others. Their spirit was revolution, mistrust and impatience with negotiations. The end of freedom would justify the means, even if it meant twisting the truth or law-breaking.

Ali, a very kind man who was a worker for the Libyan Peace Committee, gave an honest summary of what it was like to live in revolutionary Libya: "Life is not always wonderful. Some are lucky, some not so lucky. The revolution is good!

A night in Tripoli

We must work hard for the revolution. In order to be a Libyan and live happy here, you must be against America and hate American government. But when you do that, you will get bombed and killed. This is a fact of life for Libyans."

The second viewpoint was that of the "cynics," those who admitted to having no hope for peace in the Middle East. An American from Syria said, "... Syrians, Libyans, Saudis, Iraqis, they all are fighting Zionism and Imperialism, and they all want a Pan-Arab world. But each of these countries has a leader that doesn't want to lose power, but all of them would like to be the leader of the Arab World. So, each leader works hard in the struggle, leaders will rise and fall as always" Leaders and power were always the obstacles that were discussed, not the actions of trust and co-operation.

A French-Canadian atheist, a former Roman Catholic, presented the most cynical view: "... this world as you say is full of sin. We can't expect to achieve peace among such people. The wealthy hotshots in New York have bought off the whole U.S. Senate! You write up one article in a newspaper that's pro-Palestinian, and you lose your job! I ran 40 radio stations throughout all of Quebec — all the heads of the corporations called my boss and before you know it, I was fired! ... no, we can't give up and let them run all over us, but what can you do? All we can do is keep the pressure on the governments that they don't run over all the people"

What can we do?

Most of us are not in a position to influence world affairs in any noticeable way. Christ while on this earth, was a



revolutionary in teaching the Jews the truths of God's everlasting Kingdom, but toward the earthly state and the governors He taught submission and honour. Still, peace comes in God's time, by His means, through miracles and men. His Word assures us that He rules the kings of earth. He is King of kings!

As citizens in His Kingdom, we strengthen our witness when we become knowledgeable about the cultures, traditions and faiths represented across the world. When the time comes for us to build bridges of trust with the foreigners and our neighbours of other races, we will not keep up the walls of suspicion and fear very long if we already know the habits and beliefs over which we differ. Experiencing the goodwill and hospitality of the Libyan people was a great surprise for me. Learning about their Muslim faith helped me understand the absence there of some of the moral plagues that our society endures, such as alcoholism, divorce, and

pornography. It's hard for us to get beyond the fact that Gadhafi is a madman on the international scene, but I saw throughout city and countryside the evidence of a benevolent ruler toward his people that is so uncommon in an African state.

A peace conference it never was, but I feel better for knowing that there is a nation of 3-million people in Libya who are normal human beings, who want a simple, peaceful life.

He makes nations great, and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them. He deprives the leaders of the earth of their reason; he sends them wandering through a trackless waste. They grope in darkness with no light; he makes them stagger like drunkards.

Jeremiah 12:23-25

Gary Timmerman is a history teacher at Durham Christian High School in Bowmanville, Ontario.



Photo: Bert Witvoet

An Indian youth lit the flame from a torch brought by Libyan runners.

Feature

Building bridges to the Middle East

Wybe Bylsma

The craggy mountains of Switzerland lie behind us. As our Alitalia Boeing 747 thunders majestically over a cloud-covered France, I think back to our fascinating visit to Tripoli.

My Libyan friends here in Canada had told me much about their homeland, but now for a whole week I could experience for myself the sights and sounds of this North African country that so often appears in news bulletins in a negative light.



described to us the genuine hurts of the displaced and uprooted Palestinians.)

Our only source of information also for us as adults is the press, which is often much more concerned with splashy headlines than with truth and justice. We should provide ourselves and our children with *first-hand* information about this region, so that we may be able to seek justice also for our Arab neighbours and in particular our Palestinian neighbours, without reliance on the popular news media. For that reason it would be wise to develop for the Christian schools a course of studies about the Arab world. Such a course should

Photos: Bert Witvoet

Left: Gary (eating) and Wybe enjoy the hospitality of Berber Farmers.

Right: An elderly Libyan watches the parade through Tripoli.

Below: Young Libyans were dancing to the music of a bagpipe outside the Gadhafi compound.



Having been involved for more than 25 years in education as a teacher or a member of a schoolboard or education committee, I have a strong desire to pass on to our young people the knowledge and experience that the older generation is gathering in the light of God's Word. After all, God commands us to train our youth in the way they should go and that in essence means to seek the welfare of His rule and, therefore, the welfare of our neighbour as well. Loving God and neighbour, of course, means caring for those nearby; yet, it also means caring for those outside of our immediate environment.

In a world drenched in self-interest, self-fulfilment, and self-assertion, we as people who want to promote God's great reputation should concentrate on building bridges to others: the needy, the displaced, as well as the

stranger. And since we must always train our children in the way that we ourselves should walk, we ought to see to it that both at home and at school we learn to think of others and to seek their welfare.

In this article I would like to focus on the stranger as our neighbour, specifically in the Arab world. For several years I have felt that we as Christian community do not provide our students with a thorough understanding of what's happening in this part of the globe with its deep-seated hurts and injustices. (The Palestinian question is a case in point. A member of our Canadian delegation to the Tripoli conference was a Palestinian gentleman who very movingly

attempt to make students aware of and develop appreciation for the differences in clothing and architecture, and include the more subtle differences in use of time, friendship patterns, role of men and women, use of alcohol, forms of ownership, temperament, and so on.

At this point I would like to highlight some differences. On a bus trip to Garyan in the mountains — where we enjoyed a Berber style meal in tents — half a dozen of our Libyan guides spontaneously sang Arab songs, making use of improvised drums and clapping of hands. Several times we noticed that these young men were in no way reluctant to express their feelings in rousing song.

Neither were they afraid to express warm feelings of friendship by embracing as they met or by holding hands at other times. Such affection was natural to them without any negative sexual connotations, as it is so easily among us. Such differences help us to look at our own patterns of behaviour and help us appreciate and learn from others. They, in

turn, will likely learn from us as well. Such interaction will help us all to overcome feelings of being strangers, feelings of distrust and of dislike for each other. It will help build bridges of co-operation.

I value the contacts that I have made during my visit to Libya and hope that through them we may be able to develop a meaningful course of studies that will serve to build a bridge of understanding to the Arab world, so that the Christian community may be stimulated to seek healing also for those hurting in the Middle East. On this score I would like to hear from teachers and students or other interested people alike. Please contact me at 416-349-2091 to let me know of your interest in this matter or else write to me (Wybe Bylsma, R.R.#2, Baltimore, ON K0K 1C0).

Since I did not finish this article on the plane, I can still share an interesting incident from our landing in Montreal. On the plane, Bert Witvoet had been sitting beside two young men from Lebanon. These were Christian brothers who were tired of the strife and turmoil in their homeland and were now seeking asylum in Canada at that very moment. They told Bert that they were happy to meet North American Christians who are interested in the affairs of the Middle East and in the Arab point of view. They expressed the hope that we will continue to encourage the Christian community to



seek understanding for the Middle East.

Let us, therefore, be bridge builders — people who are deeply concerned about the welfare of others, also in the geographic region of our spiritual roots; people who in obedience to God also tend to the wounds of our Palestinian neighbours, because their injustice is a central cause of Middle East conflict and tension.

Wybe Bylsma is a real estate agent living in Cobourg, Ontario.

The peace of Gadhafi or the peace of Reagan?

...continued from page 10.
grievances? Was President Reagan justified in bombing Libya? What is happening to the Palestinians and their need for a homeland? How can peace be achieved in the Middle East? These are the issues that underlie the commemoration of the first anniversary of the bombing of Libya.

And these issues were not addressed in the Western press to the best of my knowledge. Western papers look for stories that will sell newspapers, and in that way they use "an otherwise meaningless event" to serve their own purpose.

Worthwhile experience

So much to tell, after such a brief stay in Libya. (We were back in Toronto exactly a week after departure, to the hour.) In the near future I hope to write about Jane Jackson, the feisty lady from Oakland, California. My experience may surface in my other writings.

I could talk about Good Friday spent among the wonderful Roman ruins of Sabrata, the festivities on a

farm in the West Mountains, the bazaar of Tripoli, a church service with Italians and Koreans in Tripoli, the midnight mass with the Pope in St. Peter's Cathedral (what a contrast with the visit to the Gadhafi compound!)

I did feel that I had learned so much in such a brief time. It was certainly good for me as editor of *Calvinist Contact* to get this kind of exposure.

I do know one thing--we Christians have to be a lot more discerning in the matter of interpreting government actions and statements and in reading our daily newspapers. We must not easily give our loyalty to nationalistic, self-centred movements. The peace of Christ is not of this world, I discovered; not of Reagan, not of Gadhafi, not of peace movements all over this world.

We have to struggle hard to discover what Christ meant when He said on Easter morning, "Peace be with you," and how we must pass on that peace to all the nations of the world, also in the realm of politics.

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To facilitate matters, we encourage those who request and pay for the wedding announcement to enclose \$10 and the couple's future address.</p> | <p>C.C. apologizes to: Mr. and Mrs. Wietze & Lamkje Vander Heide (nee Koops) and Mr. and Mrs. Dirk & Hendrikje Jonker (nee Mosterd) whose anniversary pictures were inadvertently reversed in the May 1 issue.</p> <p>1937 May 16 1987 With praise and thankfulness to God, we wish to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, BOUWE and JANTJE BERGSMA (nee Jongsma) We pray and believe that the Lord will continue to bless you and keep you in His care. Love and congratulations from: Evert & Fimke — Crampton Hilda Klingsberg; Nicholas, Sherry Brian & Diane; Breanne, Ashley Maryanne Robert Diana Ted & Judy — Calgary, Alta. Bill Harold James Martin & Judy Poelman — Aylmer Joanne Griffioen — Woodstock Henry Michael Darryl Arnold & Sylvia Kikkert — Ingersoll Jeanette Francine Steve & Annie Johnson — Ingersoll Freddie The Lord willing, open house will be held at the Masonic Hall, 194 Thames St. S., Ingersoll, Ont., on Saturday, May 16, 1987, from 1-5 p.m. Best wishes only. Home address: 110 Caverley Rd., Apt. #14, Aylmer, ON N5H 2P4</p> <p>With much joy and thankfulness to the Lord, we wish to announce the 30th wedding anniversary of our dear parents, JOHN and MARTHA BOSVELD (nee Vellinga) married May 10, 1957, in Chatham, Ont. It is our prayer that the Lord will be near to you both, and bless you with many more years together. With love: Ken & Gwen Calvin & Shelley Kerrie & Jack Shelly & John Home address: 121 Elgin St., Waterdown, ON L0R 2H0</p> | <p>1937 May 17 1987 With gratitude to the Lord, we wish to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, POPPE and SJOUKJE BOUMA Congratulations Mom and Dad, Pake and Beppe! We pray that God may continue to strengthen and guide you in the years to come. With love: John & Janny Bouma; Darlene, Michael Ann & Lud Bekkering; Frank, John, Herman, Ludy, Sandra Gord & Mary Bouma; Natalie, Sonja Martin & Brenda Bouma; Travis, Kyle, Julie Hank & Audrey Bouma; Jodi, Kevin John & Betty Bouma; Derek, Carli, Dustin Five great-grandchildren Open house will be held at Pineview on May 16, from 3-5 p.m. Home address: #101 1310 Exmouth St., Sarnia, ON N7S 3X9</p> <p>Sexberum Dundas 1947 1987 HARRY and EDITH DE JONG Our Pake and Beppe will be married for 40 years. We feel this is something to celebrate. All relatives, friends and former neighbours are invited to our open house Saturday, May 23rd, from 7-10 p.m., Ancaster Chr. Ref. Church. Pake & Beppe — We love you!! Your grandchildren and our moms and dads too.</p> <p>Franecker Kingston 1937 May 20 1987 With joy and praise to the Lord, we are happy to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents, JAN and BAUKJE BOUMA (nee Talsma) We are thankful to the Lord for all the years Mom and Dad could share together. May He continue to uphold and bless them in the years to come. Happy anniversary, Mom and Dad, Pake and Beppe. Liz & Dick Van Rooyen — Forest Bev & Rick Wallace — Sarnia Rick & Jason — at home Dirk & Sylvia Bouma; David, Juanita, Leisha, Andrea — Kingston Andy & Jenny Bouma; Sarah, Mark, Kristin, Ryan, Chad — Woodstock Open house will be held, D.V., at the Heritage Villa, 480 Elliott Ave., Kingston, on Wednesday, May 20 from 2-4:30 p.m. Best wishes only, please. Mailing address: 480 Elliott Ave., Apt. #107, Kingston, ON K7K 6J9</p> | <p>DUIVESTEYN: Herman and Ann Duivesteyn wish to thank their friends and relatives for the flowers, cards and best wishes sent to them on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. It was a real joy to have so many of you with us to celebrate this special day. We thank God for your friendship.</p> <p>Anniversaries Anjum, Duncan, Friesland B.C. 1937 May 25 1987 With joy and thanksgiving in our hearts to the Lord, we are pleased to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, BOUKE and SJOERDTJE RENEMA (nee De Jong) Their wedding text was: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Rev. 2:10b) We, your children, thank you for your love and Christian upbringing you gave us. It is our prayer that God will continue to bless you. Henny & Hank Groenewold — Pitt Meadows, B.C. Rose & Jelmier Groenewold — Cobble Hill, B.C. Mike & Susan Renema — Chemainus, B.C. Andy & Willie Renema — Edmonton, Alta. 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Home address: 757 Castle St., Duncan, B.C. V9L 2J9</p> | <p>1962 May 11 1987 "Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God." (Rom. 15:7) On this happy day we give thanks to God as our parents celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary, RALPH and THERESA FLEDDERUS (nee Huisman) Congratulations Mom and Dad, and thanks for your guidance, love and support. May the Lord continue to bless you in years to come. With love from: Lyn — Hamilton Carolyn & Steve Tolkamp — Waterdown Home address: 21 Fairmeadow Dr., Guelph, ON N1H 6X2</p> <p>More anniversaries on next page. Williamsburg Niagara Falls 1962 May 18 1987 "Where you go, I will go and where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God." (Ruth 1:16) With joy and thanksgiving to the Lord, we are happy to announce the 25th wedding anniversary of our parents, WARNER and LENA KOITER (nee VanderWal) Their thankful children: Evelyn — Niagara Falls Margaret — Toronto Sylvia — at home Lena — at home Home address: 7701 Badger Rd., Niagara Falls, ON L2H 1H8</p> |
| Births | | | | |
| <p>SPOELSTRA (Farenhorst): With thanks to God, Paul and Henny announce the birth of their third little miracle: PAUL DYLAN Farenhorst Spoelstra. Thrilled with his arrival are Jordan and Buffy. Home address: 262 West 2nd St., Hamilton, ON L9C 3G7.</p> | | | | |
| Marriages | | | | |
| <p>GRIFFIOEN-DRENTH: "... And the peace which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4-9) Believing our love to be a gift from God, we, MARGARET ALICE and MARTIN JOHN, joyfully announce our forthcoming marriage. Sharing our joy with love and support are our parents, Jacob and Adriana Griffioen (Cannington, Ont.) and John and Pauline Drenth (St. Catharines, Ont.) The ceremony will take place, D.V., May 30, 1987, at 10:30 a.m. in the Covenant Chr. Ref. Church, St. Catharines, Ont. Rev. Henry Jonker officiating. If you cannot attend, we request your presence in thought and prayer. Our home address: 7 Beverley St., St. Catharines, ON L2P 2J9</p> <p>HOEKSTRA-WOLTING: Mr. and Mrs. William Hoekstra and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wolting are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children CHERYL and TIM. They will exchange their vows of promise and love on Saturday, May 23, 1987, at 3 p.m., Grace Chr. Ref. Church, Chatham. Rev. J. Tuininga officiating. Future address: 316 - 276 Merritt Ave., Chatham, ON N7M 3G1</p> <p>KALDEWAY-WUBS: Martin and Alice Kaldeaway of Brockville, Ont. and Harry and Jose Wubs of Ottawa, Ont., are happy to announce the wedding of their children, JOHN and JENNIFER. The ceremony will take place, the Lord willing, on May 30, 1987, at 2 p.m. in the Calvin Chr. Ref. Church. Rev. S. Couperus officiating. Future address: 2604 Draper Ave., Apt. 1102, Ottawa, ON K2H 9B1</p> <p>MEIJERS-BUSHKOWSKY: Lenie and Enno Meijers, Milton, Ont., are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter CORINNA BARBARA Meijers to AARON HERBERT Bushkowsky, son of Sylvia and Herbert Bushkowsky of Edmonton, Alta. The ceremony will take place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 30, 1987, in the Acton Chr. Ref. Church. Future address of newlyweds: 210 10139-117th St., Edmonton, AB T5K 2L3</p> | | | | |
| | | | |  |
| | | | | <p>Congratulations to John and Grietje Sikkema (nee Soepboer) who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on May 19, 1987.</p> |
| | | | | <p>Smilde (Dr.) Chatham, Ont. 1947 May 7 1987 With thankfulness to the Lord for His goodness and care, we wish to announce the 40th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents, CORNELIS and REINA FEYEN (nee Mast) We rejoice with them and pray for God's continued blessings. With love from: Jake & Lynnda; Kenneth, Betty-Renée, Michael, Bradley — Norwich, Ont. Fred & Margaret; Jesse, Tara — Chatham, Ont. Wilma & Will; Kevin, Shannon, Shaylyn — Georgetown, Ont. Jeannie — Red Deer, Alta. Hetty & Todd; Renée, Dennis, Jason — Chatham, Ont. Irene & Mark — Chatham, Ont. Home address: 14 Algonquian Dr., Chatham, ON N7M 5Y2</p> |
| | | | | <p>May 19, 1987 With joy and thanks to God, we are happy to announce the 55th wedding anniversary of our parents, JOHN and GRIETJE SIKKEMA (nee Soepboer) Happy anniversary Mom and Dad, Grandma and Grandpa. We pray that God will continue to take care of you. With love from your children: Evert & Kay Sikkema Audrey & Peter Straatsma Jack & Teresa Sikkema Appi & Susan Sikkema 17 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren. There will be an open house in the John Knox Christian School on McLaughlin Rd., Brampton, on May 23rd, from 2-4 p.m. Home address: Mr. and Mrs. John Sikkema, 7900 McLaughlin Rd., Apt. #413, Brampton, ON L6V 3N2</p> |

Classifieds

| Anniversaries | Anniversaries | Anniversaries | Anniversaries | Anniversaries |
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| <p>1962 May 17 1987 "Lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, O Lord." (Psalm 4:6) We thank the Lord for shining the light of His love upon our parents for the past 25 years.</p> <p>ROBERT and NANCY LENOS (nee Hielema)</p> <p>Congratulations Mom and Dad: Hetty & Paul (fiance) — Hamilton Roberta — Hamilton Cathy & Mike (boyfriend) — at home May God richly bless you in the rest of your life together.</p> <p>We invite you to join us in celebrating this joyous occasion on Friday, May 15, 1987, at 8:00 p.m., in the Jarvis Community Centre.</p> <p>Best wishes only, please.</p> <p>Home address: R.R.#3, Jarvis, ON N0A 1J0</p> | <p>Grouw, Forest, The Netherlands Ont. 1947 May 9 1987 Wedding text: "The Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore." (Ps. 121:v.8) With gratitude and thanks to our Lord, we'd like to share with you the 40th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents,</p> <p>TEAKLE (Ted) and ADRAANTJE (Audrey) SOEPBOER (nee DeVries)</p> <p>We thank you for all the love and support you have given us all through the years! May our God continue to bless you both through the years to come.</p> <p>Bill & Mary Soepboer; Barbara, Beverly, Bradley — Oyen, Alta. Harry & Gwen Soepboer — Stratford</p> <p>Nick & Willie Doornbosch; Nicky, Rodney, Dwayne, Jeffery, Delton — Forest</p> <p>Paul & Fred Schneider; Jennifer, Christopher — Forest</p> <p>Ted & Sue Soepboer; Teddy Jr. — Forest</p> <p>Harold & Brenda Soepboer; Vicky, Terrance — Forest</p> <p>Audrey Soepboer & Dan Penneford (fiance) — Sarnia</p> <p>Home address: R.R.#5, Forest, ON N0N 1J0</p> | <p>1962 May 26 1987 The Lord willing we hope to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents,</p> <p>RINZE (Dick) and GLADYS VANDERVEEN (nee Kippers)</p> <p>May the Lord continue to bless you and keep you in His care.</p> <p>Congratulations Mom and Heit, Pake and Beppe.</p> <p>Teresa & Andrew Vanderkooi; Alisha, Chelsea</p> <p>Sandra Deborah Barbara John Gloria</p> <p>Open house to be held on Tuesday, May 26, 1987, at their home from 7-10 p.m.</p> <p>Home address: 14451 - 110 Ave., Edmonton, AB T5N 1J3</p> |  | |
| <p>Hoogezand Essex 1937 May 12 1987 With joy and thanksgiving to the Lord for His love and faithfulness, we are happy to announce the golden wedding anniversary of our dear parents,</p> <p>JOHN and KLAASIEN MAATHUIS (nee Schutte)</p> <p>May the Lord continue to bless you and be near you always. Much love from your children and grandchildren:</p> <p>Michael Maathuis — Essex Anne & Allen Brandsma — Chatham Charles & Debbie Maathuis — Kitchener</p> <p>John & Helen Maathuis — Oakville Karen & Richard St. John — Wheatley 13 grandchildren</p> <p>Open house, D.V., May 16, 1987, 2-4 p.m., Chr. Ref. Church, Essex (downstairs).</p> <p>Home address: 37 Irwin Ave., Essex, ON N8M 2S7</p> |  |  | <p>1952 May 21 1987 With thankfulness to God, we are happy to celebrate the 35th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents,</p> <p>JOHN and KITTY VERSLUIS</p> <p>May the Lord give you many more happy years together.</p> <p>With love from all of us: John; Andrew Leo & Frances Nellie Chris & Jan; Caroline, Christel Bill Marg Ed</p> <p>Home address: 28 John St., St. Catharines, ON L2N 4P1</p> | <p>Grotegast Watford 1937 May 14 1987 With praise and thanksgiving to God, we are happy to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents,</p> <p>TAEKE and WILHELMINA VAN DER WAL (nee Broekema)</p> <p>We pray and hope the Lord will continue to bless you. With love and congratulations from your children and grandchildren:</p> <p>Hylke & Ann Van der Wal; Leslie, Sean, Kip — Dalmeny, Sask. Richard & Helena Van der Wal; Richard Kevin, Karen, Marianne, Michelle, Ryan — Acton, Ont. Bill & Dianne Van der Wal; Jeff, Christy, Angela — Walkerton, Ont.</p> <p>Sylvia Van der Wal — St. Thomas, Ont.</p> <p>Henry Van der Wal — Watford, Ont. Mark Van der Wal — Sudbury, Ont.</p> <p>We wish to invite all our friends and relatives to an open house to be held, D.V., May 16th, in the Forest Chr. Ref. Church from 2-4 p.m.</p> <p>Best wishes only, please.</p> <p>Home address: R.R.#8, Watford, ON N0M 2S0</p> |
| <p>Sloodorp Guelph 1942 May 16 1987 With joy and thanksgiving to the Lord for His love and faithfulness, we are happy to announce the 45th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents,</p> <p>PETER and ALICE MATTER (nee de Boer)</p> <p>Their children: Faye & Mike Tjoelker; George, Paul, Sylvia, Conrad — Guelph Richard & Jennifer Matter; Thomas, Lisa, Patricia, Heather — Woodstock</p> <p>Rose & Andrew van der Laan; Ron, Cindy, Michelle, Peter, Cathy, David — Fergus</p> <p>Luke & Hennie Matter; Peter, Elisa, Kyle — Burlington</p> <p>Bert & Teeny Matter; Janine, Gary — Guelph</p> <p>Home address: 256 Water St., Guelph, ON N1G 1B7</p> | <p>Congratulations to Jan and Eelkje Visser (nee Groot) who will celebrate their 50th anniversary, D.V., on May 13, 1987.</p> <p>Andyk, N.H. Chatham, Ont. 1937 1987 With joy and gratitude to our heavenly Father, we hope to celebrate, on May 13, 1987, the 50th wedding anniversary of our dear parents and grandparents,</p> <p>JAN and EELKJE VISSER (nee Groot)</p> <p>"In nothing be anxious; but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." (Phil. 4:6)</p> <p>Congratulations Mom and Dad on your golden anniversary. We thank our heavenly Father and you for your provision and guidance and sharing with us the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom, having not seen, we love; in whom, though now we see Him not, yet believing, we rejoice with joy unspeakable.</p> <p>Your thankful children and grandchildren:</p> <p>Peter & Martha Visser; John, Marcy, Bob, Annette — Orillia, Ont. Jack & Renata Visser; Christine, Louise, Michael, Sonya, Lisa — High River, Alta. John & Jan Visser; Arthur, Bradley, Brian, Heather — Russell, Ont. Olga Planting; Melissa, Ken, Pamela — Orillia, Ont.</p> <p>Mary & Peter De Haan; Tammy, Stephen, Michelle, Jason — Ayr, Ont.</p> <p>Grace & Jeff Nielson; Jennifer, Jeffrey — London, Ont.</p> | <p>Congratulations to Gerrit and Pietje Sluys (nee Groot) who will celebrate their 50th anniversary, D.V., on May 13, 1987.</p> <p>GERRIT and PIETJE SLUYS (nee Groot)</p> <p>on Mar. 24, 1987, at the age of 70 years.</p> <p>Beloved wife of the late Frederik Bouwmeester.</p> <p>Dear mother of: John & Gail Bouwmeester — Eden Mills Jane & Herb DeKok — Cambridge Hank & Joanne Bouwmeester — Niagara Falls Fred & Margaret Bouwmeester — Drayton Helen & Murray Scholten — Palmerston Ron & Wilma Bouwmeester — Elmira</p> <p>Lovingly remembered by 21 grandchildren.</p> <p>One sister of New Zealand, one sister and two brothers of The Netherlands.</p> <p>Funeral services were held on Mar. 26, 1987, from Drayton Chr. Ref. Church with Rev. Velthuisen officiating.</p> <p>"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast." (Eph. 2:8,9)</p> <p>117 Chalmers St., Cambridge, (G) ON N1R 5C1</p> | <p>Obituaries</p> <p>Op 16 april 1987 heeft de Here uit onze kring weggenomen ons medelid,</p> <p>Mrs. E. ROORDA</p> <p>op een leeftijd van 77 jaar.</p> <p>Moge de Here Mr. Roorda en kinderen sterken in dit verlies en dat zij troost mogen vinden te weten, dat zij nu mag juichen voor Gods troon.</p> <p>Namens de leden van de Golden Age Club in Chatham.</p> | |
| <p>An ad in Calvinist Contact gets results!</p> <p>1937 May 4 1987 With great thankfulness to our heavenly Father for His love and goodness, we wish to announce the 50th wedding anniversary of our parents and grandparents,</p> <p>REINDER and WILLEMPJE SNYDER (nee Bakker)</p> <p>We pray that God will continue to bless and keep you for each other and for us.</p> <p>With love from: Clarence & Gerda Snyder; Janette, Wilma & John Terpstra, Rob, Bonitta, Peter Harry Thea & Roy Posthumus; Rob & Debbie (fiancee), Tamara, Jason Marleen & Wayne Toth; Nicole, Justin, Shannon</p> <p>Home address: 37 Oriole Cr., Grimsby, ON L3M 3X7</p> | <p>Open house will be held on Saturday, May 16, 1987, from 2-5 p.m., in the First Chr. Ref. Church Fellowship Hall in Chatham, Ont.</p> <p>Greetings, congratulations and best wishes only, please.</p> | | <p>Obituaries</p> <p>Ministers</p> <p>New Life CRC, Abbotsford, B.C., organized Oct., 1986, as the fifth Abbotsford CRC, is seeking its first pastor. Church profile available on request. Send inquiries and resume to: Calling Committee, c/o Bob Brandsma, 190 Gladwin St., Abbotsford, BC V2S 4N5</p> | |

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| Obituaries | Obituaries | Employment Wanted | Real Estate | Real Estate |
| <p>"Blessed are those who die in the Lord." (Rev. 14:13)</p> <p>In our sorrow, we were given a card with this message on it:</p> <p>Beyond the rainbow's farthest end, there lies a land that's always filled with love and light,</p> <p>Where shadows never fall and dim the skies;</p> <p>For in this lovely land, there is no night,</p> <p>In this celestial place of joy and peace,</p> <p>There is no time or space, no doubt or fear;</p> <p>For those who come to it, all troubles cease,</p> <p>Ali worldly difficulties disappear.</p> <p>And though the loss of loved ones or of friends</p> <p>Brings sorrow and is hard for us to bear,</p> <p>If we could see beyond the rainbow's end</p> <p>We know that we would find them waiting there</p> <p>In that celestial dwelling place above —</p> <p>The land of peace and joy, of light and love.</p> <p>On Apr. 19, 1987, as the result of a stroke, God chose to take home with Him, our dearly loved wife and mother,</p> <p>THERESA MARTENS (nee Klaas)</p> <p>at the age of 44.</p> <p>She is sadly missed by her husband Albert and her children: Grant Duane</p> <p>A funeral service was held on Apr. 22 in the Willowdale CRC. Interment York Cemetery. Rev. J. Westerhof and Theresa's brother, Rev. H. Eshuis officiated.</p> <p>Home address: 151 Henderson Ave., Thornhill, ON L3T 2L6</p> | <p>"Take thou my hands and lead me along life's way, until earth's night is banished by radiant day.</p> <p>I would not take a single step apart from Thee;</p> <p>where Thou dost walk or tarry, there let me be."</p> <p>On Saturday, Apr. 25, 1987, the Lord took home to Himself our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother,</p> <p>ADRIANA JOHANNA BAKELAAR (nee Huyer)</p> <p>in her 86th year.</p> <p>Beloved wife of John Cornelis Bakelaar who went before her 10 years ago.</p> <p>Mother of nine sons and daughters-in-law:</p> <p>William & Wietske — Clinton</p> <p>Peter & Grace — Mitchell</p> <p>Adrian & Alice — Penticton, B.C.</p> <p>Jim & Hinke — Brussels</p> <p>John & Wilma — Uxbridge</p> <p>Jake & Joanne — Guelph</p> <p>Cor & Ollie — Keene</p> <p>Len & Rynie — Teeswater</p> <p>Hans & Linda — Auburn</p> <p>34 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren.</p> <p>Home address: R.R.#1, Auburn, ON N0M 1E0</p> | <p>Healthy middle-aged woman seeks position as live-in companion. Prefers Southern Ontario. Available immediately. Call Joan at (416) 851-2582.</p> <p>Work wanted</p> <p>22-year-old man living in The Netherlands is looking for a job anywhere in Canada. Will accept work of any nature till the fall of '87. English speaking. Please phone (705) 277-2240.</p> <p>Calendar of Events will return next week, space permitting.</p> <p>Accommodations</p> <p>3 single women in early 20's, looking for 4th to share house at Victoria Park and Kingston Rd., Toronto. Thirty minutes to downtown by streetcar. \$350 per month plus ¼ share of utilities. Call Linda Battel at 698-1985 (eve.) or 364-9020 (days).</p> <p>Vacations</p> <p>ALTON LODGES</p> <p>1 & 2 bedroom clean, house-keeping cottages; family resort; 2 minute walk from beautiful sandy beach; close to fishing and 20 minutes from Chr. Ref. Church.</p> <p>Telephone: 705-429-2420</p> <p>Address: 459 Mosley St. Wasaga Beach, ON</p> <p>Site 130, Box #8, R.R.#1, L0L 2P0</p> <p>LEN & RITA BETTE</p> <p>RICELAKE</p> <p>Like fishing the big ones? Fully equipped large modern house-keeping cottages, colour TV, sandy bathing area, rec hall, new boats and motors, store, live bait, fishing licences. Campsites available for the week or season. Like a clean, quiet resort? It's all here at the family place.</p> <p><i>Write or phone for brochure:</i></p> <p>Lang's Resort and Campgrounds</p> <p>R.R.#3, Box C, Roseneath, ON K0K 2X0</p> <p>Phone: (416) 352-2308</p> | <p>Viable dairy farm, 310 acres, enjoys top milk price (\$5.80) and payout (92% fluid quota). Buildings less than 15 years old includes 150 ft. barn, ties 60 cows plus calf pens, sealed concrete silo 24 x 80, implement shed 40 x 80, four-bedroom split-level house is brick veneer, 2600 sq. ft. has finished rec room, features two fireplaces. Only three miles from public funded alternative Christian school (K-12). Stratton, Ont. Ph. 807-483-5411.</p> <p>Invest in Safe Mortgages</p> <p>any amount, but minimum \$5,000.00</p> <p>Interest rates from 11½ to 12½ %</p> <p>Terms of 1, 2 and 3 years. Some excellent 1st and 2nd mortgages available.</p> <p>Call: G. Broos Realtor Ltd.</p> <p>Mortgage Brokers, ask for Harry Snoek</p> <p>(416) 221-7400</p> <p>For Rent</p> <p>Completely furnished cottage for rent by the week. Close to beach and store. Available June to September. Call 519-395-3581.</p> <p>For Sale</p> <p>Lelawala the Maid of the Mist</p> <p><i>the legend and love story about Niagara Falls</i></p> <p>as told and illustrated by Lini R. Grol.</p> <p>Hardcover.</p> <p>Send \$10 + \$1 postage to:</p> <p>Lini R. Grol</p> <p>1431 Pelham St.</p> <p>Fonthill, ON</p> <p>L0S 1E0</p> | <p>VANDERGROOT REALTY INC.</p> <p>VRI</p> <p>MLS</p> <p>Multiple Listing Service</p> <p>Jerry Vandergoot</p> <p>President</p> <p>Your complete real estate service</p> <p><i>Serving London, Ontario, and surrounding area.</i></p> <p>402 Oxford Street E.</p> <p><i>(corner of Oxford & Colborne)</i></p> <p>London, Ontario N6A 1V7</p> <p>Phone (519) 672-9970</p> <p>ADA REALTY LTD.</p> <p>3412-102 Ave.</p> <p>Edmonton, AB</p> <p>T5W 0A3</p> <p>Tel. 471-1814</p> <p>Sid Vandermeulen</p> <p>Contact us first when you think of moving to Edmonton and district.</p> <p>Het vertrouwde adres.</p> <p>For Sale</p> <p>For sale: Well-established Dutch store in south-western Ontario. Excellent Main St. location. Two storey, 1300 sq. ft. brick building. Modern, fully equipped store and spacious upstairs apartment. Reply to File no. 2460, Calvinist Contact 99 Niagara St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 4L3</p> |
| <p>Maassluis</p> <p>July, 1904</p> <p>"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."</p> <p>After a lengthy illness, the Lord took home at his appointed time,</p> <p>HENDRIK VAN VLIET</p> <p>on Friday, Apr. 10, 1987, in his 83rd year.</p> <p>Dearly beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.</p> <p>Johanna Van Vliet (nee De Geus)</p> <p>Children:</p> <p>Sarnia:</p> <p>Bep & Kees Van Oosterom (nee Van Vliet)</p> <p>Joanne, Rick & Janice, Carolyn</p> <p>Lethbridge, Alta.:</p> <p>John & Linda Van Vliet (nee Snoeyer)</p> <p>Alice, Ken & Kristin, Joyce & Anson, Henry, Debby</p> <p>Strathroy:</p> <p>Cor & Bep Van Vliet (nee Verkade)</p> <p>Jeanne, Gordon</p> <p>Kingsville:</p> <p>Henry & Alta Van Vliet (nee Bebingh)</p> <p>David, Tanya, Patricia</p> <p>The funeral service was held Monday, Apr. 13, 1987, in the East Chr. Ref. Church, Strathroy. Rev. J.D. Tangelder officiating.</p> <p>Home address: 521 Albert St., Strathroy, ON N7G 1X1</p> | <p>Discover the Magic of Muskoka at friendly</p> <p>FALCON LODGE</p> <p>Modern, clean accommodation; cosy lounge with fireplace and games room in the main lodge.</p> <p>Special Victoria Day Weekend package</p> <p>\$99 per person</p> <p>(includes 3 nights, 3 breakfasts and 2 dinners)</p> <p>Your hosts: Ton and Cathy Struyk</p> <p>Falcon Rd., Huntsville, ON P0A 1K0</p> <p>Tel: (705) 789-2603</p> <p>LITTLE EUROPE RESORT</p> <p>BRACEBRIDGE, MUSKOKA</p> <p></p> <p>Voor een geslaagde vakantie met de Hollandse gezelligheid. Cottages te huur tegen redelijke prijzen. Uitstekende kampeer-zwem-en vis gelegenheid (ideaal voor groepskampen).</p> <p>"Little Europe" vindt u 10 km. ten oosten van Hwy. 11, aan Hwy. 118 East, voorbij de Muskoka Airport.</p> <p>• No pets please</p> <p>• Showers available</p> <p>R.S. BAKEMA</p> <p>Telephone: (705) 645-2738</p> | <p>FOR SALE</p> <p><i>Calvinist Contact</i> wishes to dispose of the following used surplus equipment:</p> <p>1) One Xerox Cheshire Model 730 Label Printer</p> <p>2) One Compugraphic "Compewriter 11 JR" typesetting machine</p> <p>3) One Kodak Ektamatic Processor</p> <p><i>For information, contact:</i></p> <p>Stan de Jong, Manager</p> <p>Calvinist Contact Publishing Ltd.</p> <p>99 Niagara Street</p> <p>St. Catharines, ON L2R 4L3</p> <p>Phone (416) 682-8311</p> <p>Vacations</p> <p>Vacations</p> <p>SANDY BAY COTTAGES</p> <p>RICE LAKE</p> <p>5th Season Celebration</p> <p>Discount packages for May, June, Sept. and Oct. include accom-mo-cation, boat, motor, 1st gas, lifejackets and lots of friendly service at one special price.</p> <p>14 modern housekeeping units, fully equipped. Seven newly-renovated with 6' patio doors or picture windows, shower and deck. All have lovely views of Rice Lake.</p> <p>Sandy Bay is known for its good fishing and family atmosphere. Sandy beach and playground for children, family activities for all ages, rec hall, store, boats, motors, bait and licences.</p> <p><i>Write or phone for our brochure and newsletter</i></p> <p>ART & SUE BREEZE</p> <p>R.R.#1</p> <p>Hastings, Ontario K0L 1Y0</p> <p>705-696-2951</p> | | |
| <p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>Durham Region Right to Life Association has audio and video materials as well as speakers available for students, teachers, clubs and churches, etc. For info, (416) 668-7911.</p> | | | | |

Classifieds

| Help Wanted | Help Wanted | Help Wanted | Teachers | Summer Job Market |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Opportunity for couple who would like to do some farming on their own and help 3/4 time on dairy farm. House and barn supplied. Dairy experience necessary. Phone Norwich, Ont., (519) 863-2096.</p> | <p>Full-time position available on hog farm in Vineland area starting May 10. Call (416) 563-8409.</p> <p>Full-time, year-round help wanted for greenhouse. Paul Vos Greenhouses, (416) 689-6763.</p> | <p>Full-time housekeeper needed to care for young infant, to prepare meals and maintain home. Anticipated starting date would be Oct. 1, 1987. A third-floor apartment overlooking beautiful Lake Superior with private entrance is available. Please send applications with references before June 15, 1987, to Dr. & Mr. Pierre Vroom, 298 N. Court St., Thunder Bay, ON P7R 4W3. Phone (807) 345-0656.</p> | <p>STRATFORD: Stratford and District Interdenominational Chr. School is in need of a teaching principal and a teacher for combination of Grades 4-5-6. Ability to teach French will be an asset. Send resume to: Mrs. J. Streutker, Sec., R.R.#1, Tavistock, ON N0B 2R0; for further information contact the school at (519) 393-5675.</p> <p>SURREY, B.C.: The Surrey Chr. School invites applications for possible teacher positions in kindergarten and Grade 4 for the 1987/88 school year. Please send applications and resumes to the principal, A. Jansen, Surrey Chr. School, 9115 160th St., Surrey, B.C. V3R 4N4.</p> <p>TERRACE, B.C.: Centennial Chr. School, located in Terrace, B.C., is inviting applications for possible openings in K-7 for the 1987-88 school year. Centennial Chr. School, operating since 1967, has a present enrolment of 80 students. The school is located in the beautiful Skeena Valley and offers many dynamic opportunities. For further information please contact Frank Voogd, Principal, Centennial Christian School, 3602 Sparks St., Terrace, B.C. V8G 2V6. Phone: (604) 635-6173.</p> <p>WALLACEBURG: Would you like to join a dynamic, developing, demanding school situation? Wallaceburg Chr. School announces a definite opening in Grades 1 & 2 and a possible opening in Grades 5 & 6. Since this teaching position will involve teaching French in, possibly, Grade 4 to 8, demonstrated competence in this area will be a considerable asset to the applicant. Send resume and request for applications to: Mr. T.J. Tristram, Principal, Wallaceburg Chr. School, 693 Albert St., Wallaceburg, ON N8A 1Y8.</p> <p>WILLIAMSBURG: Our school is in need of a teacher for a combined Grade 5-6 class for Sept. 1987, or for remedial help and principal relief. Preference will be given to those who have working knowledge of French and are experienced. Please send your application to: Mr. James Kooistra, Principal, Timothy Chr. School, Williamsburg, On K0C 2H0. Phone: (613) 535-2687.</p> | <p>ACTON: 15-year-old Grade 10 student seeking summer job in Southern Ontario. Has some mechanical experience and is willing to work on a dairy farm. Write or call Jeremy Adema, 23 Greenore Cresc., Acton, ON L7J 2T1; (519) 853-3206.</p> <p>ACTON: 19-year-old Redeemer College student seeking a summer job in the Acton area. Available May 11. Call (519) 853-2455 and ask for Annette on the weekends.</p> <p>CAMLACHIE: 15-year-old high school student wishes a summer job preferably in the Sarnia-Wyoming area. Willing to try anything. Please phone 542-1963. Stewart Klazinga (jr.), R.R.#1, Camlachie, ON N0N 1E0</p> <p>CAMBRIDGE: 19-year-old Redeemer College student seeks summer employment in Southern Ontario. I am willing to do almost anything. Write or call Sharon Timmerman, 61 Woodland Dr., Cambridge, ON N1R 2X7; (519) 621-4502.</p> <p>CANNINGTON: 18-year-old, University-bound student is looking for summer employment in Toronto. Have driver's licence and previous summer work experience. For more information contact Linda at 1-705-432-2508.</p> <p>CLIVE, Alberta: 19-year-old second-year college student wishes a job in Alberta. Has experience cashiering, milking cows, and some small landscaping. I enjoy working out- and indoors, and working with children (pre-school to 9). In May, 1987, I will graduate from Dordt College with a two-year degree in Education-Teacher Assistant. For more information (before May 8) call 712-722-3735 or (after May 10) call 403-784-3670 and ask for Stephanie VanderWekken.</p> <p>COBOURG, Ont.: I am a third-year student at Calvin College. My major is sociology with a social work concentrate. I would like to find a summer job, preferably in the field I am studying. Please write me Judy Rhebergen at R.R.#5, Cobourg, ON K9A 4J8; phone (416) 372-4149.</p> <p>DRAYTON: 16-year-old student seeking summer employment. Will do anything. Experienced in dairy farming, babysitting and working in a store. Please call Denise at 638-2125.</p> <p>EDMONTON: Third year history major from The King's College is seeking employment for May 1 to Sept. 1. I have a wide range of experience from coast to coast from Katimavik to SWIM, from farming to cooking. Interested? Phone Allan Groen at (403) 424-0234. Willing to relocate.</p> <p>FENWICK: Seeking a job in: full-time nanny/housekeeper, live in. Preferably in Niagara region. With references. Contact Leona Piepers, 1026 Church St., Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0; (416) 892-3243.</p> <p>OSHAWA: 2nd year Brock University computer science student looking for a computer related job in the Oshawa area. Have knowledge of basic Pascal, Cobol and Assembly and have experience working with IBM, PC, MacIntosh, VAX 11/780 and Commodore PET computers. For more information or for inquiries phone Jerry at (416) 934-2724 before Apr. 21 or (416) 579-1402 after Apr. 21.</p> |
| <p>RECEPTIONIST-SECRETARY</p> <p>required by a leading floral industry wholesaler. The position involves answering main switchboard and receiving all visitors of the business as well as performing general office duties. The successful applicant should have good typing skills and be able to operate electronic typewriter, telex and Gestetner duplicating machine.</p> <p><i>Interested applicants should submit resume or apply at the office.</i></p> <p>CREEKSIDE GARDENS LIMITED Fairlane Rd., Jordan Station, ON L0R 1S0</p> | | | | |
| <p>DORDT COLLEGE</p> <p>invites applications for a possible tenure-track position in</p> <p>Physical Education</p> <p>Qualified individuals who are committed to a biblical, Reformed, theology and educational philosophy are invited to send a personal resume, academic credentials, and personal references to:</p> <p>Dr. Douglas Ribbens Vice President for Academic Affairs Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250</p> <p><i>Ethnic minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Dordt College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.</i></p> | | | | |
| <p>CAMP KE-MON-OYA</p> <p><i>a Christian boys' and girls' camp, has staff openings for:</i></p> <p>Camp Cook for July and August</p> <p>Activity Counsellors in snorkeling, sailing and arts and crafts 18 and older, July and August</p> <p><i>If you feel called to spend a summer sharing the Gospel with children, please write to:</i></p> <p>Camp KE-MON-OYA, Box #213, Apsley, ON K0L 1A0 or call (705) 656-4631</p> | | | | |
| <p>Salem Christian Mental Health Association</p> <p>invites applications for</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>The successful applicant will have counselling and administrative experience. This position includes central responsibility for development of sound Christian mental health care, recognizing that healing should take place within a person's faith community. Commencement date negotiable.</p> <p><i>Letters should be sent to:</i></p> <p>Secretary of the Board, Salem M.H.A. 128 Willowdale Ave., Willowdale, ON M2N 4Y2</p> | | | | |
| <p>The Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools</p> <p>invites applications for</p> <p><i>Accountant</i></p> <p>Qualifications for this position include business experience, management training, knowledge of tax laws and information processing technology.</p> <p><i>Applications should be sent by May 31 to:</i></p> <p>Executive Director Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools P.O. Box 7220 Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3L4 (416) 648-2100</p> | | | | |
| <p>Looking for a job? Check C.C.'s classifieds.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Teachers</p> <p>ATHENS: Athens Chr. School has an opening for a teaching principal for the 1987/88 school year. This would be an excellent opportunity for an experienced teacher with organizational and leadership abilities to gain administrative experience in a smaller Christian school. Please send your letter of application and resume to: Mrs. Hinke Weima, Box 264, Athens, ON K0E 1B0 or call (613) 924-9500 (day) or (613) 924-9452 (eve.)</p> <p>HOUSTON, B.C.: The Houston Chr. School is seeking applications for a Grade 7/8 teacher with a major in Science. Please contact the principal Mr. H. Fritschy, Houston Chr. School, Box 237, Houston, B.C. V0J 1Z0. Tel. (604) 845-7736 (school) or 845-7953 (home).</p> <p>LUCKNOW: The Lucknow and District Chr. School seeks applications for a combined administration/special education position. Please send all resumes to: Mr. W. Kamphuis, Principal, Box 550, Lucknow, ON N0G 2H0. Tel. (519) 528-2016.</p> <p>OSHAWA, Ont.: Immanuel Chr. School invites applications for two teaching positions in K-8. Ability to teach French, music, or computer would be an asset. Send application and resume to: Immanuel Chr. School, Principal, 849 Rossland Rd. West, Oshawa, ON L1H 7K4.</p> <p>OTTAWA: Ottawa Chr. School is inviting applications for one teacher position for Grade 4/5. Ability to teach French would be an asset. Send resume to Ottawa Chr. School, 2191 Benjamin Ave., Ottawa, ON K2A 1P6. For information call Mrs. Diane Nauth; (613) 729-6880.</p> <p>OWEN SOUND: A teacher is required for Grades 3-5 commencing in Sept., 1987. Please write to: Mr. Garth Bierma, Principal, Timothy Chr. School, 199 4th Ave. W., Owen Sound, ON N4K 4V1 or call (519) 371-9151.</p> <p>SASKATOON: Saskatoon Chr. School has a possible opening for a Grade 1 and 2 combination for the 1987-88 year. Send applications to the school at 2410 Haultain Ave., Saskatoon, SK S7J 1R3.</p> <p>SMITHVILLE: Smithville District Chr. High has two teaching positions available either full-time or part-time. The two positions can be made up of a combination of courses including art. Please send your application to: Mr. B. Strooboscher, Principal, Box 310, Smithville, ON L0R 2A0.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Why not hire a student this summer?</p> | | | | |
| <p>Summer Job Market</p> <p>High school student wants work on farm for summer holidays. Has previous farm experience. Please call John Wiebenga, (519) 821-1155.</p> <p>ABBOTSFORD, B.C.: I am a 22-year-old 4th year university student who wishes to have a job in the Lower Fraser Valley area for the summer. I am in elementary education and would like something in the area of teaching/working with young children (preferably in Grades 4-7). Other work experience includes strawberry boss, milking cows and tractor work, and waitressing. Will take anything else though. Own transportation. Interested? Phone Kelly Kool at (604) 852-4005; 39205 N. Parallel Rd., R.R.#4, Abbotsford, B.C. Canada V2S 4N4</p> <p>BRANTFORD: My name is Michael Bootsma and I am a third year student at Redeemer College. I am a hard worker, having helped on the home farm, working in construction and renovating and doing various odd jobs like chopping wood. I will be available for work at the beginning of June to the end of August. Please contact me at home at (519) 752-6316.</p> | | | | |

Classifieds/Events

Summer Job Market

HAMILTON: 17-year-old Grade 12 student seeking employment as an electrical apprentice commencing July of 1987 in the Hamilton area. Have some experience but eager to learn. Call Dave Vuyk at 416-389-4047 anytime. References available upon request.

LISTOWEL: I am a fourth-year student at Calvin College. My majors are Fine Arts and Elementary Education. I would like to find a summer job preferably in the field I am studying, but also have experience in landscaping and store cashier. Please write me at: Elizabeth J. Hobrink, 257 Union St., E., Listowel, ON N4W 2H1; phone: (519) 291-3577.

LYNDEN: I am a third year animal and poultry science major (Bsc. Agr.) at the University of Guelph, looking for a summer job in a related field. Please contact me, Jacob Ringelberg at (519) 647-2290.

PARKHILL: I am soon to be a 16-year-old, Grade 11 student who would like to work in a garage, cleaning and helping out because I want to be a mechanic. I am very eager to learn and am a hard worker. I'd like to work anywhere in Ontario. Please call (519) 232-4488 and ask for Bonnie.

ST. CATHARINES: I am a full-fledged carpenter (journeyman) now studying at Calvin College. I am interested in contracting for small carpentry jobs in my area during the months of June, July and August. Do you want a kitchen renovated or a sundeck made? Contact Ed Witvoet at 684-3991.

ST. CATHARINES: I am a Grade 11 student and would like to gain experience in an office or store but will do almost anything else. I know a little about computers and accounting and can type. Please phone 937-3833 and ask for Sharlene.

ST. CATHARINES: Hi! My name is Donna Suk, and I'm looking for a summer job. I'm 18 years old, and I will be graduating from high school in June. I've had one summer's experience in a camp kitchen and one on a dairy farm. I also have experience in green-houses, babysitting and I presently clean after school at the school I attend. I'm willing to learn something new. If you can help me out, please call me at 416-934-3605.

SEAFORTH: 18-year-old male seeking employment in the area of gardening. Has some experience in this area. Am also interested in trying out skills relating to forestry. Write to: Steven VandeBan, R.R.#1, Seaforth, ON N0K 1W0 or phone 1-519-527-0705.

SEAFORTH: Grade 12, 18-year-old male student seeking summer employment in the area of garden work. Write to Harvey Van de Ban, R.R.#1, Seaforth, ON N0K 1W0 or telephone (519) 527-0705.

STRATHROY: I am a 16½-year-old girl going into Grade 11 and would like summer employment. Will do almost anything. Write Joanne Jurjens, 412 Carrie St., Strathroy, ON N7G 3E2 or call 519-245-5618.

TRURO, N.S.: Housekeeper/nanny — energetic 18-year-old high school graduate looking for summer employment as housekeeper/nanny, anywhere. Have previous experience. Will cook, clean, babysit and do odd jobs. For more information write or phone Joan Kloosterhof, 337 College Rd., Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 2P7 (902) 895-7597.

Summer Job Market

VICTORIA, B.C.: Female, Grade 12 graduate is seeking employment as a live-in nanny/housekeeper with a French speaking Christian family in Montreal from July to December. Please reply to Carolyn Schenk, 4272 Moorpark Place, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 6P2

WELLAND, ONT.: Hi! I am a 20-year-old college student studying to be a social worker. I am looking for a job from May to July preferably in the Niagara Region or the Bowmanville/Oshawa area but I am willing to go elsewhere. Have my own transportation. Experience: cleaning offices and houses, working with the mentally handicapped, factory work and other areas. I am very willing to learn new things. For more info. write Darlene Borger, 33 Dufferin St., Welland, ON L3C 4K3 or phone 416-735-9817.

WINGHAM: 19-year-old girl looking for a summer job in office. Enjoys computers and anything to do with accounting. Enrolled at Conestoga College in the general business course. For more information please contact Liz Versteeg at (519) 271-9984. If no answer call (519) 357-2009.



Summer job market ends next week

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| Fri. May 29 | Tues. May 26 | Wed. May 20-8:30a.m. | Thurs. May 21-8:30a.m. |

Science Day

For Senior High School Students

at

Redeemer College

Thursday, May 21, 1987

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Join other High School students from across the province for a day of illustrated lectures, discussion and fellowship. Senior High School students interested in science are invited to participate.

For registration or information, please contact the College.
Redeemer College, Ancaster, Ontario, L9G 3N6
(416) 648-2131

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In Concert

Adoramus-Maranatha Choir

with guest solo organist
ANDRE KNEVEL

John Hunse, Director Fred Numan, Accompanist

on May 16, 1987 at 8 p.m. in
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

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Tickets from any choir member
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Immanuel Christian School
Lethbridge, Alberta

is celebrating its
year of operation during
the 1986-1987 school year.

Various events are planned for
Friday and Saturday, July 3 & 4, 1987

Rev. John Ooms, a Grade nine graduate (1970), will
be the guest speaker on Friday evening. Saturday
afternoon will be more informal. Displays of the
various graduating classes will be shown as well as an
historical slide show. Beef-on-a-bun will be served for
supper. Tickets are available for that; cost \$5.00.
Special anniversary caps (\$4.00) and pins (\$3.00) will
be sold as well. All former students, teachers, board
and committee members are invited to help us
celebrate.

For more information call the school at
(1-403) 327-4223

Seventh
Annual
Clinton
Klompfen
Feest

May 15-16,
1987
Clinton
Community
Park



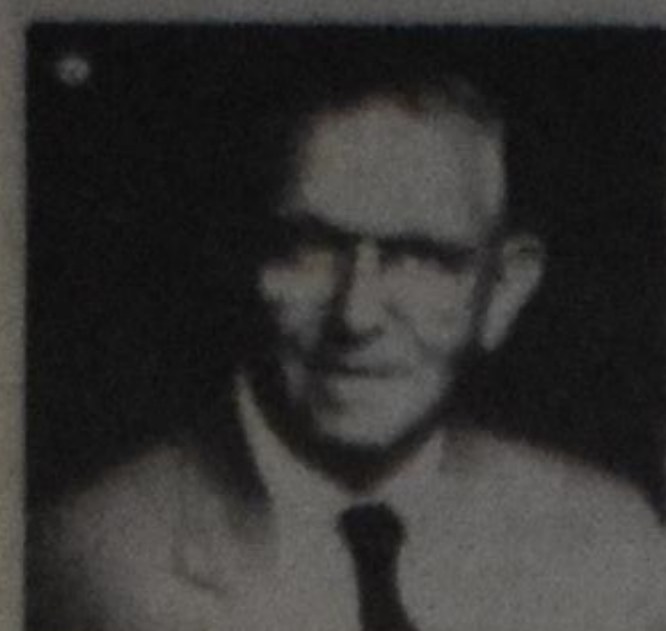
Starts Friday evening — Lots of fun and games
At 11 a.m. Saturday — giant parade
— Giant barbeque and Dutch delicacies (oliebollen, haring,
paling, croquetten, etc.)

Don't miss it!!!

Bed & breakfast: Contact J. Schoonderwoerd
at (519) 482-3460

For info.: Contact Jenny Valkenburg
159 Rattenbury
Clinton, ON N0M 1L0
Phone (519) 482-9454

Dutch



Onder de Streep

John Van Harmelen

Will Lamartine Thompson werd geboren in East Liverpool, Ohio, op 7 november 1847 — hij stierf in New York City, op 20 september, 1909.

Hij heeft zijn opleiding genoten op Mount Union College, en vooral op het New England Conservatorium voor muziek in Boston. Later studeerde hij ook muziek in Leipzig. De zoon van overtuigde Schots-Ierse Presbyteriaanse ouders openbaarde al spoedig muzikale gaven, die hem later winst zouden opleveren. Toen hij zestien jaar was componeerde hij al, maar het duurde tot zijn achtentwintigste jaar eer hij er over dacht om enkele van zijn originele gedichten te publiceren.

De "Bard van Ohio" kon het: dichten en componeren! In 1875 maakte hij vier nieuwe composities af en bood hen te koop aan bij een uitgeverszaak van muziek te Cleveland voor honderd dollars.

De uitgever te Cleveland introduceerde de jonge musicus tot de harde werkelijkheid van de uitgevers door hem vijftientig dollars te bieden voor de vier gedichten. Hij waarschuwde

hem dat hij zulk materiaal in overvloed kon verkrijgen.

Zelf publiceren

Thompson trok zich echter van de vermaning van de uitgever niets aan en verliet de zaak met de handschriften onder zijn arm. Een poos later, toen hij in New York was voor een zakenreis in opdracht van zijn vader, Josiah Thompson, een manufacturier uit Liverpool, kwam Will Thompson op het idee om zelf de vier composities te publiceren. Drie ervan werden nogal populair. Mijn bron, Ernest K. Emurian, noemt in zijn boek *Veertig verhalen van beroemde gospel songs*, (blz. 107), de titels: 1. Driftings with the tide, 2. My home on the old Ohio, 3. Under the Moonlite sky.

Eén ervan overtrof de drie genoemden, en werd het meest succesvolle lied van die tijd. De titel was: "Gathering shells from the seashore."

De drukpersen werden gedwongen dag en nacht te draaien om aan de aanvraag te voldoen.

Thompson werd geïnspireerd door zijn onverwacht geluk en hij stichtte zijn eigen muziekhandel in Chicago, die aan het publiek allerlei populaire en

Zachtkens en teder

1. Zachtkens en teder roept Jezus de zijnen
dringend weerklinkt Zijne stem:
Zondaars, o komt toch en wordt nu de Mijne
Ga nu gelovig tot Hem!

Koor:

Keert weer, keert weer
Keert weer, keert weer
Zondaars, keert weer tot uw Heer!
Zachtkens en teder roept Jezus de Zijnen.
Zondaars, o hoort Hem, keert weer!

2. Jaren reeds staat Hij en klopt aan uw harte
Laat toch niet langer Hem staan;
Weet, dat uw weig'ring de Heiland zal smarten
Laat toch de Heer binnengaan. Koor:

3. Snel vliegt de tijd, ook der zaligheid, henen,
Alles op aarde vergaat!
Blijft niet de Satan uw oor langer lenen,
Straks is 't voor eeuwig te laat! Koor:

(Johannes De Heer, nr. 444)

Will L. Thompson 1847-1909

Dichter, componist

Melodie: Thompson met refrein.

vaderlandse liederen verschaft. Hij liet ook verschillende gezellige liedjes drukken, maar diep in zijn hart was er een verlangen om hymns te dichten en te publiceren.

Invitatie-gezag

Gewoonlijk worden twee hymns genoemd, die er "in" gegaan zijn: "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling," en: "Jesus is all the world to me."

Will Thompson dichtte ze allebei en componeerde de zangwijze ook. De "Hymnal Committee" gaf de naam Thompson aan de eerste, en de naam Elizabeth aan de tweede melodie. Thompson trouwde nl. Miss Elizabeth Johnson in 1891 te East Liverpool, in Ohio.

De hymn "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling" werd erg veel gebruikt als een

invitatie-gezag in de grote evangelisatie-samenkomsten die door Moody en Sankey in Engeland en Amerika werden belegd. De uitnodiging werd gedaan om te geloven in Jezus Christus als de enige volkomen Zaligmaker. Dringend weerklinkt Jezus' stem: "Zondaars, o komt toch en wordt nu de Mijne." En de dichter, Will Thompson, zegt het ook: "ga nu gelovig tot Hem!"

★ ★ ★

Er gaat een verhaal over een bezoek dat Thompson wilde maken toen Dwight L. Moody ernstig ziek was. Hef bleek dat bezoekers niet mochten worden toegelaten. Toen Moody echter hoorde dat Thompson aan de deur was, stond hij er op dat er voor Thompson een uitzondering moest worden gemaakt. Moody groette hem heel hartelijk en zei fluisterend: Will, ik zou liever "softly and tenderly" gedicht hebben dan dat ik iets anders in mijn hele leven zou gedaan hebben.

Men vertelt ook dat Will Thompson in Ohio van het ene kleine dorp naar het andere trok met zijn 'horse and buggy' om zijn gedichten, voor hen die maar luisteren wilden, te zingen. Daarom noemden ze hem de "bard of Ohio." Een bard was een zanger en dichter bij de Kelten en andere oude volken; figuurlijk; verheven (volks)-dichter.

Men hoorde Will Lamartine Thompson graag zingen.

John Van Harmelen is emeritus predikant voor de Christian Reformed Church. Hij woont in Caesarea, Ontario.

Is uw kind veilig?

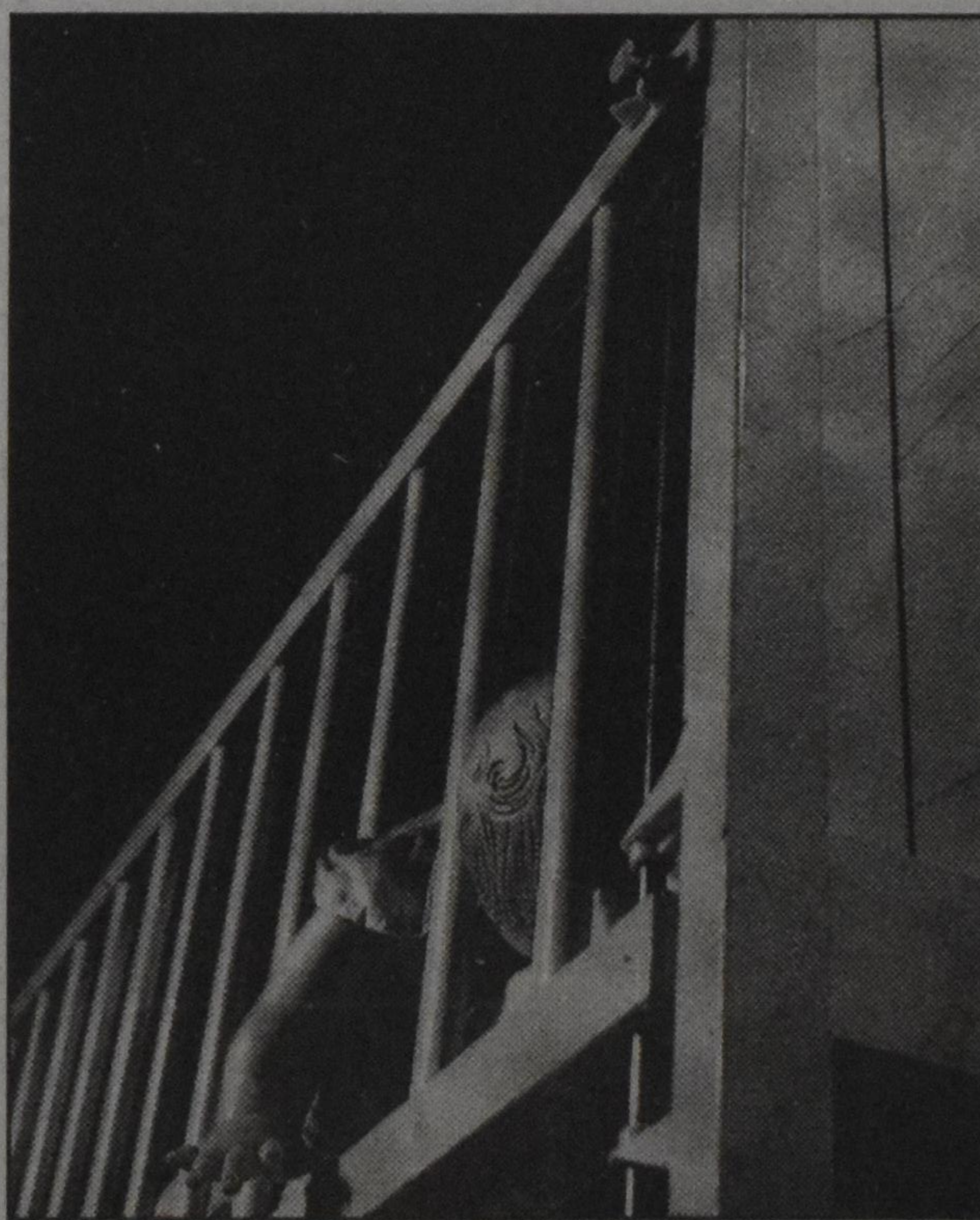
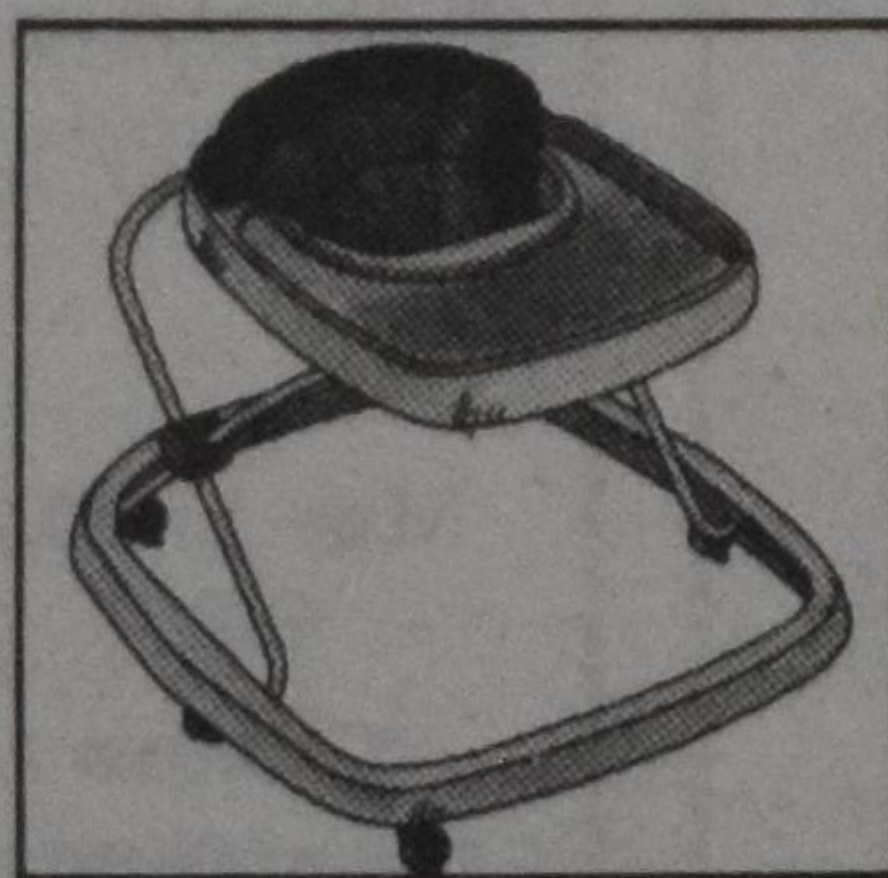
Elk jaar zijn duizenden kinderen het slachtoffer van ongelukken in en rond het huis. U kunt dit risico van verwonding van uw kind tegengaan door het een veilige omgeving te verzekeren.

De federale regering heeft verleden najaar nieuwe strenge veiligheidsvoorschriften voor kinderledikantjes ingesteld. Wees ervan verzekerd, dat u een goede krib uitzoekt die voldoet aan al de veiligheidsvoorschriften en houdt het dan in goede staat.

Denk er om dat het nachtgoed en de kleding van de kinderen heel brandbaar zijn en dat uw kinderen niet dichtbij open haarden, kachels en andere verwarmingsapparatuur moeten spelen. Nauwsluitende pyama's zijn veiliger dan losse, wijde nachtkleding.

Houd scherp toezicht, als uw kind een "walker" gebruikt, speciaal dichtbij kachels en elektrische snoeren, en maak dat de trappengang afgesloten is.

Voor meer inlichtingen over het veiligstellen van uw kind kunt u contact opnemen met het dichtstbijzijnde kantoor van "Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada."



Consumer & Corporate Affairs Canada
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Harvie Andre, Minister

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Persoverzicht

Carl D. Tuyl



Het debat over de doodstraf maalt door in de Kamer als een film in een lege bioscoop. Zeventien leden waren aanwezig op dinsdag jongstleden en een minister had het kortste eindje getrokken om de regering te vertegenwoordigen. De stand op woensdagochtend was: drie voor en negen tegen. De Lutherse Kerk in Canada heeft zich officieel tegen de doodstraf uitgesproken.

★★★★

De provinciale premiers vergaderden in een poging om Quebec in het grondwettelijk akkoord te betrekken. Er waren geruchten dat Quebec bereid was water in de wijn te doen. Tot nu toe heeft Quebec het absolute veto-recht geëist, maar er werd gespekuleerd dat er wel geschaafd zou kunnen worden

aan die voorwaarde. Premier Getty van Alberta was van plan om nog een ander punt op de agenda te plaatsen: hij wil dat de vergadering ook de eventuele verandering van representatie in de Eerste Kamer zal bespreken. Mijnheer Getty zei, bezorgd te zijn over de toenemende tendens naar onafhankelijkheid in het westen van ons land. Mijnheer VanderZalm lacht niet zo gul meer. Er komen rimpels in zijn voorhoofd. Hij dacht dat hij British Columbia zou kunnen regeren alsof het zijn vroegere tuinderij was. De onderwijzers in de provincie beschouwen zich echter niet als werkgevers van meneer VanderZalm, en laten hem dat ongezoeten weten. Ze reageren tegen de anti-vakvereniging wetgevingen en de meesters en juffrouws lieten verstek gaan met als gevolg dat de scholieren een onverwachte vrije dag kregen.

★★★★

In Ontario heeft de N.D.P. al jaren geageert voor overname van automobiel-verzekering bij de provincie. Door de steile opgang van de prijzen werd dat hoe langer hoe meer een populaire zaak. Premier Peterson, die politieke stromingen met arendsogen volgt, liet de Minister voor Konsumentenzaken afkondigen, dat geen verhogingen in prijs meer werden toegestaan en dat de verzekeringskosten van taxi's en voor mannelijke automobilisten onder de 25 onmiddellijk met 10% verlaagd moesten worden. Er was wening en knarsen van tanden in de verzekeringsindustrie en de populariteit van de Liberale regering schoot omhoog als een raket op weg naar de ruimte. De N.D.P. was op zoek naar een andere populaire zaak.

★★★★

Mijnheer John Baxter is de Minister van Financiën in New Brunswick. Hij beloofde verleden jaar dat het tekort in de provinciale kas totaal zou verdwijnen. Nu het puntje bij paaltje kwam voorspelde hij een toename van negentig miljoen dollars in het tekort. Hij heeft die kunst afgekeken van President Reagan, die ook dergelijke beloften maakte en intussen kans heeft gezien om in de zes jaren van zijn regering de nationale schuld van Amerika met drie te vermenigvuldigen, en meer in het krijt te komen dan al zijn voorgangers.

★★★★

Er komen optimistische geluiden uit Geneva met betrekking tot de kansen voor beperking van kernwapens. Er is sprake van het elimineren van korte-afstand raketten. De NAVO-landen bezien deze ontwikkeling met een zekere bezorgdheid, omdat de traditionele bewapening van de Russische strijdkrachten die van de NAVO-landen in manschappen en materiaal ver overtreft.

★★★★

In Italië, waar regeringen vallen met de regelmaat van grootvader's klok, is het laatste kabinet na een regeringsperiode van tien dagen weer ontbonden.

★★★★

De P.T.L. (Pay to the Leader) tragedie is nu in het zevende bedrijf. Tammy's mascara vloeit rijkelijk vanwege haar tranen en Jimmy is ontslagen zonder gouden horloge of extra uitkering. Hij loopt nu in de werkelozen-verzekering. Er zijn nog steeds mensen die geld naar die onderneming sturen. De kerk zit met tekorten te kampen, maar een Oral Roberts, met z'n misselijke, godonterende

bedelarij, haalt acht miljoen dollars op met zijn ketterij. Hoe Christenmensen zo dom kunnen zijn gaat mijn pet te boven.

★★★★

Tjsernobiel was alweer een jaar geleden, en de Expo in Montreal twintig jaar geleden. De Joodse gemeenschap herdacht de slachtoffers van de blonde beesten die Europa teisterden in de jaren 1940-1945. De tijd eet alles op. Diezelfde tijd wordt gezegd alle wonden te helen, maar dat is niet waar. De littekens blijven, ook op je ziel. Vraag maar aan een Joods mens die alle familieleden heeft verloren. We kunnen soms rare dingen zeggen, dooddoeners op het verdriet van anderen.

★★★★

In onze familie hield Tante Katrien het rekord voor vreemde gezegdes. Tijdens haar bezoek in Canada namen we haar natuurlijk mee naar de Niagara watervallen. Ze bewonderde het vallende water en zei toen: "Ook toevallig, dat die waterval net bij al die soevenierwinkels terecht kwam." En over een kopje koffie met slagroom was haar reactie op één van mijn preken: "Een prachtige preek Carel, jammer dat ik 't niet verstaan kon."

★★★★

En een ouderling die mijn hand schudde voordat ik het preekgestoelte beklom zei eens tegen mij: "Maak het niet te lang dominee." Overbodig: dominees maken het nooit te lang! Ouderlingen doen dat.

Carl Tuyl is predikant van de Christian Reformed Church in Kingston, Ontario.

Laat uw licht schijnen (4)

J.A. Ader-Appels

Onze kansen in het leven! Daar grijpt ieder altijd naar. Dat is me nog nooit zoo sterk opgevallen als na dezen oorlog. Ieder wil "wat anders," wat beters. De mensen die trouw op hun post blijven, ook al konden ze nu "wat anders," wat beters gaan doen, maar die blijven uit roepingsbesef, zijn zeldzaam. Er zijn er ook, die zich in den oorlog, die immers een oorlog was waar wij allen in betrokken waren, niet bepaald door zedelijke moed en opofferingsgezindheid onderscheiden hebben, maar die nu tevoorschijn komen en zich naar de eerste plaatsen dringen. Maar dat alles heeft met Jezus en met het dienen van Jezus natuurlijk niets te maken. Het dienen van Jezus heeft te maken met het dragen van een kruis, dat we zelfs *vrijwillig* op ons moeten nemen. Daar wordt veel over gesproken, maar het wordt weinig gedaan. De mensen kijken toe en zien dat. De Kerk, dat is een Instituut van mooie woorden, denken zij. Laat uw licht zoo schijnen, dat wij er iets van kunnen *zien*, dan willen we er misschien ook wat van geloovent.

Er waren in dien vreeselijken tijd die achter ons ligt, mensen in nood. Tientallen, honderden, duizenden! Misschien was uw beste vriend wel een Jood, misschien hebt ge wel samen met hem gestudeerd. Toen stak hij in zijn nood zijn hand naar u uit. Gij hadt die hand kunnen grijpen, maar gij deedt het niet. Gij hadt er ongetwijfeld uw gegronde redenen van zelfbehoud voor. Maar die vriend klampte zich aan u vast, omdat hij dacht, dat gij een christen waart. Daar gaat gij uzelf tenminste altijd voor uit. Nu voelt hij zich in Uw

christendom bedrogen. Zijn laatste hoop is vervlogen, want nu ziet hij, dat het eigenlijk — als het erop aankomt, — niets waard is, al uwe mooie woorden ten spijt; en hij springt in het water en verdrinkt zich om niet vergast te worden. Hij houdt de eer aan zichzelf.

De oorlog is achter den rug en de strijd om de mooiste kansen is weer begonnen. Wie denkt er nog om dien verdronken Jood? Gij behoeftet toch zeker geen Voorzienigheidje voor hem te spelen? Gij schudt deze onprettige gedachte, die u zou kunnen belemmeren in uw werk, — in uw christelijk werk in de Kerk misschien wel, van u af. Gij gaat verder, evenals de priester en de Leviet uit de gelijkenis, die het ook zoo druk met hun tempeldienst hadden. "De oorlog heeft vele slachtoffers gekost," zegt ge. Ge hebt geen tijd om aan de gevallen te denken. Ge behoort er zelf gelukkig niet bij. Ge hadt er bij kunnen behoren als ge dien Joodschen vriend ... Maar door uw wijze voorzichtigheid zijt ge niet in een concentratiekamp terecht gekomen. Ge leeft en de wereld ziet u promotie maken ... maar van het hogere licht dat uit God is, ziet zij niets. Niets van de werken, die God verheerlijken en die daarom blijven, ook als gij misschien zelf niet meer tot deze aarde behoort.

Juist op dezen morgen waarop ik begonnen ben aan deze "Open brief" zooals men het zou kunnen noemen, kreeg ik een foto van het gelaat van mijn man in verheven rust, met een zweem van een glimlach die niet van deze wereld was, maar een glans van den hemel afstraalde. In het voorhoofd

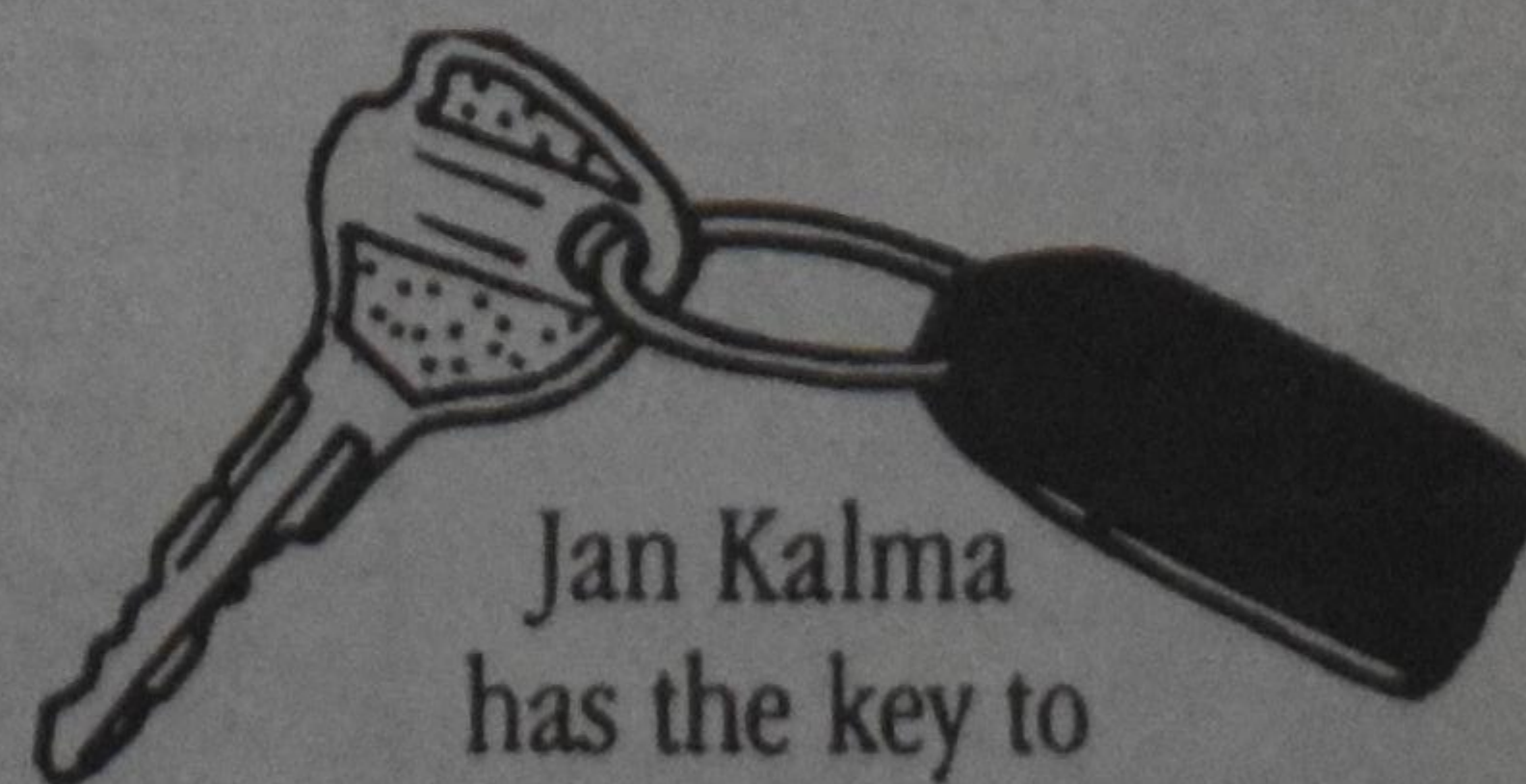
was een groot gat waar de kogel naar binnen gedrongen was. De man die dezen kogel afvuurde heb ik in de afgelopen week gesproken in de strafgevangenis te Utrecht. Het is een offer te moeten sterven als wij het leven nog voor ons hebben. Het kan een offer beteekenen te moeten *leven*, als wij zulke dingen die betrekking hebben op hen die ons het liefst zijn, achter ons hebben. Maar en het sterven en het leven, zullen dan offers moeten zijn "om Christus" wil," die blijmoedig gebracht moeten worden. Aan deze blijmoedigheid is mijn man toegekomen. Ik heb de afglans ervan op zijn stille gezicht gezien, ik heb medegevangenen ervan hooren vertellen.

Nadat hij tientallen — misschien wel een paar honderd, dat is nog niet heelemaal na te gaan hoewel wij er reeds moeite voor doen — mensen uit de klauwen van "de Grune Polizei" gered had, werd hij gegrepen en in de gevangenis gezet. Het is hier niet de plaats om hiervan te gewagen, daar deze brochure er te beknopt voor is. Mijn man vertelt ervan in zijn boek: "De laatste dagen van de J.I.," dat hij onvoltooid heeft achtergelaten, maar dat toch over eenigen tijd verschijnen zal. En ook in een boek van mijn hand: "Een Groninger Pastorie in oorlogstijd," wordt daar uitvoerig over geschreven. Over de wanhoop, die zich van de mensen meester maakte en over de zoekende liefde waarmee mijn man de mensen opzocht en hen redde.

(Wordt vervolgd)

In memoriam 20 nov. 1944, Ds. B.J. Ader.

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